GLOSSARY OF EDUCATIONAL ACRONYMS

Have you ever been reading an education article in a magazine or online and run across a bunch of initials that make no sense? Acronyms are words made up of the first initials of several words and are often used as shortcuts. Below is a list of education-related acronyms that may be useful. The base list was established by the Minnesota School Board Association, but the list has been edited and revised to be related to ROCORI School District.

General

Special Education

ROCORI  Minnesota  Testing  Financial

ACT - American College Test
AD - Activities Director
ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act
ADD - Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder
ADM - Average Daily Membership
ALC - Alternative Learning Center; may include ALP (Alternative Learning Program) which is more limited in scope than an ALC and can be offered only to students internally in a school system.
AMCPU – Adjusted Marginal Cost Pupil Units
ANTC - Adjusted Net Tax Capacity
BCA - Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
BSED – Benton-Stearns Education District
BYOD – Bring Your Own Device; technology approach encouraging students to bring
CAFÉ – Strategies used within the reading process to support the learning process; the strategies are designed to support Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency, and Expand Vocabulary; CAFÉ is associated with Daily 5—a framework for structuring literacy time so students develop lifelong habits of reading, writing and working independently.
CD - Certificate of Deposit
CESO – Center for Efficient School Operations; organization based in Twin Cities metro area with purpose to assist schools in operating in more efficient manner; focus on transportation, facilities, and general operations
CIA – Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Program
CIMP – Continuous Improvement Monitoring Program; generally associated with special education monitoring programs
CITHS – College in the High School; post-secondary opportunity to offer college credits at the high school site; usually instructed by local staff through collaboration with the provider post-secondary institution
CLC – Central Lakes Conference; activity conference to which ROCORI belongs; members include Alexandria, Brainerd, Fergus Falls, ROCORI, Sartell-St. Stephen; Sauk Rapids-Rice, St. Cloud (Apollo and Technical High Schools), and Willmar; conference affiliation applies to Moorhead and Bemidji for certain commitments for particular activities.
CLICS – Cyber-Linked Interactive Child Nutrition System
CS - Child Study
CSE – Cold Spring Elementary School
CSPD – Cold Spring Police Department; associated with School Resource Officer (SRO)
DCD – Developmental Cognitive Delay (Severe or Moderate)
DDD – Data-driven decision-making processes; using data as fully as possible to help make quality decisions
DEF – District Education Facility; the former middle school site in the ROCORI School District
D/HH - Deaf/Hard of Hearing
DIBELS – Testing done at the elementary level focused on Reading skills
DIRS – Disciplinary Incident Reporting System
DOE / USDOE – United States Department of Education
E-3 – Early childhood education through third grade
EBD - Emotional Behavior Disorder
EC – Early Childhood programming in general; typically refers to programming prior to kindergarten age
ECFE - Early Childhood Family Education
ECP—Exposure Control Plan (OSHA requirements)
ECSE - Early Childhood Special Education
EDRS - Electronic Data Reporting Service
EEO - Equal Employment Opportunity
EIS - Early Intervention Services
EL – English Learners; Sometimes ESL English as a Second Language or ELL English Language Learners
EM - Education Minnesota
EOY – End of Year
E-RATE - Education Rate (federal discount related to telecommunications)
ERISA - Employee Retirement Security Act
ESLP (SLP) - Educational Speech - Language Pathologist
ESG – Energy Services Group; engaged to conduct a facility study in the ROCORI District that resulted in HVAC, lighting and energy improvements
ESSA—Every Student Succeeds Act; New federal education legislation which replaces No Child Left Behind. Minnesota, in 2016-2017, is in the process of defining and determining the statewide processes for accountability required under the act.
ETS - Educational Telecommunications System
FAST – Testing implemented at the elementary levels to assess Reading and Math performance; much of process is computerized and is delivered to students in less time than other traditional testing methods
FLY – Flexible Learning Year; adjustment to calendar to allow more flexibility in scheduling student contact days; in Minnesota, the Department of Education must approve school calendars starting classes prior to Labor Day
FTE - Full Time Equivalent
FY - Fiscal Year
GED - General Education Diploma
GHS—Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals
GPA - Grade Point Average
HACA - Homestead Agricultural Credit Act
HCS—Hazard Communication System
HI - Hearing Impaired
HVAC – Heating, ventilation and air conditioning; generally refers to heating and cooling systems of buildings
IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; federal legislation related to special education services
IEP - Individual Education Plan
IFSP - Individual Family Service Plan
ISD - Independent School District
ISDN - Integrated Service Digital Network
IT - Information Technology
ITBS - Iowa Tests of Basic Skills
ITV - Interactive Television
JCE – John Clark Elementary School
LEA – Local Education Agency (usually used by the US Department of Education to refer to local school district)
LEEA – Leaders in Educational Excellence Awards; recognition program from Resource Training and Solutions for teachers and certified staff members; event is held in October
LBD – Literacy by Design; literacy program selected within the ROCORI School District
LD - Learning Disability
LTD - Long Term Disability
MAEOP - Minnesota Association of Educational Office Professionals
MAPS – See NWEA below; nationally normed tests applied at local level to assess student progress and growth; can measure growth from year to year and within a year; predictor of student performance on state testing
MARSS - Minnesota Automated Reporting Student Systems
MASA - Minnesota Association of School Administrators
MASBO - Minnesota Association of School Business Officials
MASSP - Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals
MCA - Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments
MDE – Minnesota Department of Education (previously DCFL/CFL - Department of Children, Families, and Learning)
MEEP - Minnesota Education Effectiveness Plan
MESPA – Minnesota Elementary School Principal Association
MinnSPRA - Minnesota School Public Relations Association
MITN - Minnesota Interactive Television Networks
MLA - Minnesota Library Association
MMMI - Mild to Moderate Mentally Impaired (EMH-Educably, mentally handicapped)
MMR – Multiple Measurement Reporting; state report card system that is new in 2012 using multiple measures of student progress
MNSCU - Minnesota State Colleges and University System
MREA - Minnesota Rural Education Association
MRNet - Minnesota Regional Network
MSBA - Minnesota School Boards Association
MSBAIT - Minnesota School Boards Association Insurance Trust
MSDLAF - Minnesota School Deposit Liquid Asset Fund
MSHSCA – Minnesota State High School Coaches Association
MSHSL - Minnesota State High School League
MSMI - Moderate to Severe Mentally Impaired (TMH—Trainable Mentally Handicapped)
NWEA (MAPS) – North West Educational Assessments; testing process used at local level to support understanding of student progress
OSHA—Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OT - Occupational Therapy
PAC – Parent Advisory Council (can also mean Political Action Committee as a general term)
PEL—Permissible Exposure Limits, legal limits of exposure to hazardous materials
PELRA - Public Employee Labor Relations Act
PERA – Public Employee Retirement Association
PFDA - Pupil Fair Dismissal Act
PIMS – Computer chips within the HVAC system at CSE
PLAN – A component of the student testing system implemented with younger students; involves more of an interest inventory to help student planning
POHI - Physical or Other Health Impaired
PPE—Personal Protective Equipment
PSEO – Post-Secondary Enrollment Options; opportunity for college level credits at the high school level; opportunity often seen as credits taken at college site during high school years but can include CITHS offered at ROCORI
PT - Physical Therapy
PU - Pupil Unit
RADD – ROCORI Against Destructive Decisions; secondary student group aimed at promoting positive environments and decision-making
RFP - Request For Proposal
RHS – ROCORI High School
RI or RE – Richmond Elementary
RMCPU - Resident Marginal Cost Pupil Units
RMS – ROCORI Middle School
RMV - Referendum Market Value
RO – Rockville (John Clark) Elementary
RtI – Response to Intervention; structure and process for intervening with students for academic progress; ROCORI practices a three-tiered approach on interventions with each tier offering more intensity of intervention
SADD – Students Against Drunk Driving (Destructive Decisions)
SAT - Scholastic Aptitude Test
SAT - Student Assistance Team
SDS—Safety Data Sheet; previously called MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet)
SEE – Schools for Equity in Education; statewide organization seeking financial equity for schools; ROCORI is a member of the organization
SGN / Wendel – Architectural firm involved in the construction of the ROCORI facilities during following the 2009 bond approval
SPS – Special Permissions System; used by the Board of Teaching to request special permissions to fill licensed positions (waivers, community experts, etc.)
SRO – School Resource Officer
STW - School To Work
SWAS – School Within A School; alternative learning setting rather than the regular classroom setting
SY – School Year
T & E - Training and Experience
T1 - "Tee one" (large bandwidth copper phone line)
TAG - Telecommunications Access Grant
TIES - Technology and Information Educational Services
TIF - Tax Increment Financing
TPI – Teacher Preparation Initiative; collaborative organization between six public schools and St. Cloud State University; the focus of TPI is the process of training new teachers and the support they receive in the first three years of teaching.
TRA - Teachers Retirement Association
TSA - Tax Sheltered Annuity
UbD – Understanding by Design; process of designing curriculum; often considered or labeled as “backward design”—develop curriculum with the end goal in sight and work backward to instructional program and strategy
UFARS - Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting System
URL - Universal Resource Locator
VI - Visually Impaired
WADM - Weighted Average Daily Membership
WBBWF – World’s Best Work Force; Minnesota statewide effort to provide public accountability for educational programs and efforts with the design to create the World’s Best Work Force.