

# GLOSSARY

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## **ABE**

Adult Basic Education

## **ALPS**

Academic Learning Program Schools (ALPS) is an initiative funded through the local school division to improve the performance of students who are academically or economically disadvantaged. All schools receive some level of ALPS allocation.

## **Appropriation**

An appropriation is authorization to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes. An appropriation is limited in dollar amount and when it may be spent, usually expiring at the end of the fiscal year.

## **Assessment Literacy**

Assessment literacy refers to the work of Division and building level staff to effectively and appropriately use information yielded by classroom and state mandated assessments. Assessments are used to both inform instructional changes that are needed to advance learning and to measure that learning has occurred appropriate to learning standards set by the State.

## **Average Class Size**

This number is determined based on baseline teacher staffing assigned to the schools other than for media specialists, guidance counselors, administrators, teaching assistants, or staffing for gifted education, technology support, and other resource support. Half of differentiated staffing assigned to a given school is also included in this number. In elementary schools, art, music, and physical education positions are not included in determining class size. For the purpose of determining class size high school enrollment is adjusted for students who spend part of the day at CATEC or outside the school for other reasons.

## **Average Daily Membership (ADM)**

The average daily number of students who are enrolled in the school division. The March 31 ADM is used to determine the exact level of state funding.

## **Budget**

A specific plan, which identifies a plan of operations for the fiscal year, states the expenditures required to meet that plan of operations, as well as identifies the revenue necessary to finance the plan.

## **Capital Improvement Program (CIP)**

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a five-year plan for public facilities in Albemarle County resulting in the construction or acquisition of fixed assets, primarily schools, but also parks, land, landfills, etc.

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## **Capital Outlay**

Capital Outlays are expenditures for items of a substantial value (typically more than \$100) such as computers and vehicles.

## **Carl Perkins**

This is a federally funded program that supports vocational and career education at the high school level.

## **Carry-Over Funds**

These are unexpended funds from the previous fiscal year, which may be used in the current fiscal year.

## **CASBA**

The Charlottesville Area School Business Alliance (CASBA) is a partnership involving the Chamber of Commerce, the Albemarle County Schools, and the Charlottesville City Schools designed to foster connections between schools and the business community.

## **CATEC**

The Charlottesville-Albemarle Technical Education Center (CATEC) is a program operated jointly by the Albemarle County Public Schools and the Charlottesville City Public Schools. The CATEC program offers technical and career education opportunities for high school students and adults.

## **Composite Index**

An Ability-to-Pay index (Composite Index) is used by the state to help determine the level of funding for the school division.

## **Comprehensive Service Act (CSA)**

This legislation mandates funding for children with significant emotional or behavioral concerns or a matching basis with the state (55% from the state).

## **Compression**

A term used to describe pay differences between positions that are so small they are considered inequitable. The term in this context refers to the pay of experienced employees and new hires in the same position.

## **Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA)**

This federal mandate provides for a continuation of health insurance coverage for a period of up to three years for employees who leave employment through no fault of their own. Such employees are required to pay premiums at the employee's group rate.

## **CTIP**

Curriculum and Technology Integration Partners (CTIP) are building-based master teachers who provide professional development in the integration of instructional technology through modeling, co-planning, and co-teaching.

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## **Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Institute (CAI)**

See Framework for Quality Learning (FQL). This summer teacher institute provides professional development for teacher teams from each school to develop and use the skills and knowledge necessary to implement the FQL learning model.

## **Design 2004/05**

Design 2004 is an instructional initiative that encourages teachers to use inquiry, analysis, and reflection to deepen student understanding of concepts through authentic application of knowledge and skills.

## **Differentiated Funding/Staffing**

This funding provides monies or personnel based on the particular additional needs of a given school population.

## **DSS**

Department of Social Services

## **Encumbrance**

This reservation of funds is used for an anticipated expenditure prior to actual payment of an item. Funds usually are reserved or encumbered once a contract obligation has been signed, but prior to the actual cash payment being dispersed.

## **ESOL**

English as a Second or Other Language (ESOL) is a program that provides English instruction to students coming from other countries who lack the necessary English skills to benefit fully from school programs.

## **Expenditure**

These funds that are paid out for a specific purpose.

## **FICA**

These are Social Security payments based on earnings.

## **Fiscal Year**

This is the period of time measurement used by the County for budget purposes. It runs from July 1st to June 30th.

## **Flow-Through**

These entitlement funds come to the school division from the federal government through the state.

## **FTE**

This stands for Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff, considering all staff members, including full-time and part-time employees.

## **Framework for Quality Learning**

This system is a model for high-quality teaching and learning through which best practices in curriculum, assessment, and instruction are applied to promote deep understanding.

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## **Fund Balance**

A fund balance is amount of money or other resources in a fund at a specific time.

## **Grant**

These funds are contributions made by a private organization or governmental agency. The contribution is usually made to aid in the support of a specified function and may require a financial match.

## **Growth**

An increase in student enrollment is termed growth.

## **IEP**

An Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is a plan required for all students receiving Special Education services. It outlines the specific services to be received by an individual student.

## **Initiative/Improvement**

A new program or service or an increase in the level of an existing program or service is termed an initiative/improvement.

## **Instructional Council**

Instructional Council is an instructional leadership group comprised of representatives from all elementary schools in the Division.

## **IP-delivered content**

IP-delivered content is electronic content delivered via a web-based application through a browser (e.g. Netscape, Internet Explorer) on a computer.

## **Lapse Factor**

This is anticipated savings from staff retirement and replacement, the lag between staff leaving and new staff being hired, and savings from deferred compensation benefits.

## **LEP**

Limited-English Proficient Students are referred to as LEP students.

## **Living Wage**

The term living wage is used by advocates to refer to the minimum hourly wage necessary for a person to achieve some specific standard of living. This standard generally means that a person working forty hours a week, with no additional income, should be able to afford a specified quality or quantity of housing, food, utilities, transport, health care, and recreation. This concept differs from the minimum wage in that the latter is set by law and may fail to meet the requirements of a living wage.

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## **Merit Pool**

Albemarle County distributes annual salary increases through a merit program. This is a pay for performance program in which individual increases are a function of three factors: an employee's merit score, the salary of the employee in relation to the midpoint, and the budgeted merit pool amount.

## **No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 governs a comprehensive accountability system for ensuring student performance across subpopulations present in individual schools as well as across the Division. The Act requires that students be tested in grades 3,4,5,6,7,8, and high schools in reading and math and science (3,5,8, high school) and that intervention services be provided to all students who are at risk of not meeting the math and reading Standards set and tested by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

## **Non-Recurring Revenue**

Funds that do not continue from year to year (one-time funds) are referred to as non-recurring revenues.

## **Operations**

Non-instructional services provided by the school division.

## **PALS**

Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) is an informal screening inventory for students in grades K-3 used across Virginia to provide teachers with information for planning classroom instruction.

## **Piedmont Regional Education Program (PREP)**

This program is a consortium of school divisions that provides a variety of Special Education services. Through this consortium, the Ivy Creek School is operated.

## **Professional Development Reimbursement Program (PDRP)**

This program supports professional development for teachers by providing funding for course/conference participation through an application process.

## **Recurring Revenue**

Funds that continue from year to year are referred to as recurring.

## **Revenue**

Revenues are assets or financial resources applied in support of the budget.

## **Scale Adjustment**

Each year Albemarle County conducts a market survey to evaluate whether pay scales are competitive. If it is determined that a scale adjustment needs to be implemented, the minimum, midpoint and maximum salaries for each paygrade are adjusted by a specified percentage.

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## **Self-Sustaining Program**

These programs operate primarily on external funding such as grants, federal funds, or fees. Such programs are not directly supported within the School Fund Budget.

## **SOAs**

The Virginia "Standards of Accreditation" (SOAs) provide a framework of requirements and accountability for all schools in the state.

## **SOLs**

The Virginia "Standards of Learning" (SOLs) provide a curriculum framework for the instructional program required by the state for all students.

## **SOQs**

The Virginia "Standards of Quality" (SOQs) are the mandated minimum standards required by statute for schools. The SOQs address areas such as staffing, facilities, and instructional programs.

## **SRO**

Student Resource Officer

## **State Basic Aid**

This is the funding that is provided by the state based on enrollment to fund the Standards of Quality.

## **State Categorical Aid**

This is the funding provided by the state for a specific purpose.

## **Teacher Performance Appraisal (TPA)**

The Teacher Performance Appraisal provides the structural, functional, and procedural components essential to evaluation of professional performance as well as to support the growth and development of teachers using a common set of professional standards.

## **Title I**

This is a federal program that supports additional instruction for economically disadvantaged students whose achievements do not meet expected standards.

## **Title II**

This is a federal program includes staff development funds, School Renovation Grants and Class Size Reduction Grants. The focus is on preparing, training, and recruiting high quality teachers, principals, and paraprofessionals.

## **Title III**

This is a federal program that assists in implementing the No Child Left Behind Act by providing funding to support limited-English proficient and immigrant students.

## **Title IV**

This is a federal program that supports Drug-Free School initiatives.

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## **Title VI**

This is a federal program that supports innovative programs in the areas of technology, literacy development and media services.

## **VERIP**

The Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Plan (VERIP) is a stipend paid to employees upon retirement for 5 years or until age 65, whichever comes first. Employees must meet defined eligibility criteria to receive this stipend.

## **Vesting**

This is the earning of a longevity step on a pay scale.

## **VRS**

The Virginia Retirement System (VRS) provides pension benefits for retirees from state and local government.