

# Acronyms and Specialized Terms

## From A to Z: A Vocabulary for Categorical Programs

**AB (Assembly Bill):** A bill originating in the California State Assembly that is presented to the Legislature.

**Ability Grouping:** Students grouped with others of the same ability. Some educators claim that high ability students working together can accomplish more if they are not held back by slow learners who often tend to be discouraged when competing with rapid learners. (Also see heterogeneous grouping).

**Academic Performance Index (API):** A system of measuring school performance in California.

**Achievement Gap:** This term is used to describe the difference in academic achievement between students whose families are low income and/or minority and those whose families are high income and not minority.

**Accountability:** The acceptance of responsibility for something to someone. This requires that standards which can be measured, counted, and understood be established. This applies to the learning success or learning failure of students. (*see School Accountability*)

**Accounting:** A way of maintaining systematic records of happenings, occurrences, and events related to persons, objects, or money. The records are summarized, analyzed, and interpreted as needed.

**Achievement Test:** A test that measures how much a student has learned in a subject over a certain period of time.

**ADA (Average Daily Attendance):** A count of students who are in attendance at school. The figure is the basis for calculating the amount of money provided for the basic educational program in a school district.

**Adequate Yearly Progress:** This is the minimum yearly improvement that is required of states, school districts, and schools toward achieving the state's standards.

**Adult-Student Ratio:** The number of adults compared to the number of students in a given program, classroom, or situation.

**Advisory Council/Committee:** An advisory group of parents, community persons, and school employees. Each funding source has specific guidelines regarding the makeup, role and responsibility for the advisory council or committee. Advisory groups must be involved in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs.

**AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children):** A program through which money is provided to families who do not earn enough to support their children. The amount of an AFDC grant depends on the number of children in the family and the family's income. The AFDC count, among other low-income family factors, generates the entitlement for Title I programs in California. This program has been discontinued and replaced with TANF - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. In California we call it CalWorks.

**After-School Learning:** Additional funds awarded competitively are available for schools to provide learning beyond the school day. The California program is called "After-School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods." The federal program is "21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers."

**Aides-Paraprofessionals:** Noncertificated people who assist the teacher in performing either administrative tasks or actual teaching functions. The use of other personnel for administrative duties

allows the teacher to concentrate on teaching functions. When the aides are used to assist in teaching, the assumption is that more students get individual attention.

**Allocation:** The amount of money actually set aside for a state or local school district for a categorical aid.

**Analysis of Discrepancy:** A statement of the reasons why there is a difference between what is and what should be concerning an objective and/or a goal.

**Anecdotal Record:** A series of notes recording what is actually observed or said.

**Application:** A document describing a program for which approval is desired. A request for funds for operating the program is usually included.

**Appropriation:** Money set aside by formal action for a specific use.

**Articulation:** The communication and coordination between all levels of the educational system, preschool through university. In comprehensive programs, this means a knowledge of the continuum of skills and concepts used in the instructional program and described in the instructional components of the school level plans.

**Assessments:** The process by which information is gathered and used to systematically describe a person, group, organization, and/or some other object being studied or examined. The information gathered by the assessment process is often used to provide information needed for evaluation.

**Assurance:** A guarantee that specific actions have actually taken place.

**Attendance Area:** A geographical area in which the children live who are normally served by a particular school.

**Attitudes:** Feelings people have to favor or oppose, to believe or to doubt, some person, group, institution, process, or proposal.

**Audiovisual Materials (A-V Materials):** Photographs, films, filmstrips, transparencies, records, audio tapes and cassettes, videotapes and other nonprint software, and the equipment on which these materials are projected or played.

**Audit:** An investigation or examination of procedures by accountants to determine that adequate accounts and records are maintained and that funds are properly utilized in compliance with the state and federal regulations.

**Authorization:** The promise of monies for categorical programs. Large dollar authorizations may be made by Congress, but the amounts to be received are the funds set aside by the appropriations committees.

**Average per Pupil Expenditures:** The total amount of money spent on education, divided by the number of pupils enrolled.

**Base Expenditures:** Funds which are expended in all schools in the district based on the schools enrollment; the money common to all schools in a district, not including funds for special programs.

**Baseline Data:** Information that is gathered from tests or questionnaires at the beginning or during a school year which can be used as the basis for establishing the rate of change and direction of change resulting from the implementation of the program. This is the beginning of the evaluation process.

**Basic Skills:** Those abilities that the community feels are necessary for a person to function independently and successfully.

**Benchmark:** A point of reference from which measurements may be made. Something that serves as a standard by which others may be measured.

**Bilingual Education:** Educational services provided to LEP pupils whose dominant language is other than English, as well as native English speakers. All pupils in a bilingual class have opportunities to learn concepts in their first language while they are developing communication skills in a second language.

**Block Grant:** The placing of several or many specific programs funds into one funding source, along with greater flexibility in how services can be provided to students.

**Bylaws:** A set of rules by which a group or committee operates.

**BTSA:** Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment.

**CalWorks:** California welfare assistance plan (see TANF).

**Capital Outlay:** A category of costs in a budget; relates to equipment and facilities having a life span of more than one year.

**Carryover Funds:** Funds not used during the funding year in which they were appropriated; may be retained to be expended during the following funding year if the application allows carryover of funds.

**Categorical Aid:** Special federal or state funds designated for specific purposes or for a specific student population, and established by legislation.

**CBEDS (California Basic Educational Data System):** An annual survey on attendance and instructors submitted to the California Department of Education annually in October; it is the basis for SIP funding and other allocations within school districts.

**CDE (California Department of Education)**

**CDS:** A fourteen digit number (660016066955) identifying the county, district, and school

07	61796	6004865
<i>County</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>School</i>
Contra Costa	WCCUSD	Montalvin

**CELDT (California English Language Development Test):** A new test to be used beginning in May of 2001 for testing of English Learners upon entry and annually.

**Certificated Employee:** An employee whose position requires a teaching, administrative, or other credential.

**Chapter 1:** Old name for what has been known as **Title I of the Improving America's School Act of 1994.**

**Chapter 2:** Old name for what has been known as **Title VI of the Improving America's School Act of 1994.**

**Child Care-Preschool Centers:** Programs for young children that are locally, state, and/or federally funded; parents pay on the basis of a sliding fee schedule. Parents need these services so they can attend school, learn a trade, or work.

**Charter Schools:** A public school that is organized independently of a traditional public school district, with the intent of greater flexibility in how it is operated.

**Child Development:** Programs designed for young children including infant, toddler and preschool ages.

**Chronological Age:** The number of years a person has lived.

**CLAD/BCLAD Certificates:** Cross-cultural, Language and Academic Development, Cross-cultural, Language and Academic Development certificates.

**Classified Personnel:** Noncertificated employees, including clerks, secretaries, aides, bus drivers, and custodians, who are not required to have special licenses or credentials.

**Class Size Reduction:** A limitation placed on the number of students in a class with a single teacher. Examples: 20:1 or 18:1.

**Cohort:** A group that is being examined or observed as in a demographic study.

**COLA:** Cost of Living Adjustment

**Committee of Practitioners (COP):** Each state is required by federal law to have a functioning committee that is made up of a broad base of practitioners (teachers, parents, other school staff, administrators, and community members) to advise the department of education regarding the Title I program.

**Community Resources:** Things, people, and places that can be used in meeting the educational, health, physical and emotional needs of children; examples are community centers, health clinics, volunteer specialists, recreation programs, and libraries.

**Community Service:** Programs that connect youth to their community in volunteer work and service learning.

**Comparability:** Each pupil in a school district must receive essentially the same amount of financial support from state and local efforts before any categorical funds can be distributed to any schools in the district. Districts are required to demonstrate comparability on an annual basis to show that they are not using categorical funds in place of basic funds required to educate the children in the district.

**Compensatory Education:** Supplementary (over and above) instructional and support services provided from categorical monies for students who have been identified to be eligible for such services because they are educationally disadvantaged, and because such students are enrolled in a school in which there is a large proportion of students who are economically disadvantaged.

**Compliance:** The term used to indicate whether or not a district using categorical aid monies is following with the state and federal laws and regulations.

**Comprehensive Program Planning:** The process of planning a program which includes all of the elements and components required for receiving categorical aid and allocating to provide the good for the greatest number of children.

**Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration (CSRD):** A federally funded program that allows schools to apply for additional funding to adopt research-based programs to improve student performance.

**Concentration Grants:** Supplemental Title I funds that are provided for districts with high concentrations (at least 15%) of students whose families have low income.

**Consolidated Application, Part I and II:** Forms used by school districts to apply for special supplementary state and federal funds. Part I is due at the California Department of Education on June 1 of each year, and Part II is due on November 1.

**Content Standards:** Content standards specify what teachers are expected to teach and students are expected to learn. These standards should be measurable and specific enough to be readily understood and verified through assessment.

**Continuous Progress:** A system in which a student moves sequentially through a continuum of skills or concepts at his own individual speed; learning tasks are individually prescribed.

**Continuum:** A series of skills organized by levels of difficulty.

**Contract:** A negotiated agreement, generally between two parties, in which a certain task or series of tasks are agreed to be completed. The contract is usually finalized by a written or oral agreement. Contracting in the classroom generally refers to the negotiations that go on between the pupil and the teacher for the task or tasks that the student will complete in lieu of the teacher assigning class work to the pupil. In such contracts a parent may also be a party.

**Coordinated Compliance Review (CCR):** A coordinated process for reviewing, monitoring, and validating, the implementation of several categorically funded programs in a district or at a school site. A district is scheduled for a CCR every four years with year three being the time of the CCR self-review.

**Core Curriculum:** The basic course of study implemented in a district or school.

**Corrective Action:** If a Title I school does not improve the performance of its students over a period of time, the state department of education can require the school and/or district to take action that results in greater academic performance.

**Cost Effectiveness:** Comparing two or more alternatives to find which one provides the most for the money.

**Costs, direct:** Expenses that can be separately identified and charged as part of the cost of a product, service, or department.

**Costs, indirect:** Administrative costs that are necessary to the operation of the program in the district; bookkeeping is an example of an indirect cost.

**Costs, planning:** Costs incurred during the planning of the program that terminate with program implementation.

**Cross-Age Tutors:** Children of different ages helping and being helped by one another.

**Cumulative File:** Records of a student's performances that are placed in a folder which follows the student from year to year.

**Curriculum:** The content of instruction. Curriculum is usually described in courses of study that are approved by local Board of Education.

**Data:** Facts and figures collected to show the degree of success of the teacher, the school, the child, the parents, or the district to achieve an objective. Test scores, attendance records, and individual diagnostic profiles are examples of hard data of primary data. Opinionnaires and sign-in sheets may be considered as examples of soft data or secondary data.

**Decision Making:** The process by which problems concerning a situation are studied and evaluated; alternative solutions to the problems are considered before a course of action is decided upon on how best to solve the problem.

**Decoding Skills:** The process of translating printed or written symbols into thought or spoken words.

**Disaggregated Data:** This term is used when test results are sorted into groups of students, such as racial/ethnic groups, economically disadvantaged, limited English proficiency, and those who have disabilities. The practice allows educators and parents to see which groups of students need additional assistance in meeting standards.

**Distinguished Schools:** Awards are presented to schools when they make major gains in achievement.

**Early Reading First:** This is a new program under Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 to promote reading readiness for children from low income families. Competitive grant awards will be made to local education agencies to support early language literacy and pre-reading development of pre-kindergarten age children, especially those from low income families.

**Education Code:** Education Code of the State of California. State law that pertains to the California education system.

**ECE (Early Childhood Education):** An approach to education in which teaching strategies are tailored to fit individual learning styles, entry level, and rates of learning at an early age.

**EIA (Economic Impact Aid):** This is a state funded program that provides supplementary funds to be used for compensatory education, services for limited English proficient students, transient students, or additional security needs.

**ELAP (English Learning and Acquisition Program):** A new program in California, established in the summer of 1999, to provide additional funds to schools with large numbers of English Learners.

**ELILP (English Language and Intensive Literacy Program):** English and Intensive Literacy Program provides students who are experiencing difficulty learning English and difficulty in reading with increased instructional opportunities. This unique program is aimed toward significantly improving the achievement of English learners in the classroom. The basis of this plan will include intensive English language education that includes 120 hours of language and literacy education.

**Eligible Schools:** Schools in a district that qualify to receive funds from one or more of the funding sources in the Consolidated Application.

**ELD (English Language Development)**

**ELL (English Language Learners):** Students whose native language is other than English and who have not yet achieved proficiency in the English Language.

**Entitlement:** The amount of money a school district receives from state or federal funds.

**ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act):** An act first passed by Congress in 1965 to provide federal funding for education. It has been continually reauthorized with the latest reauthorization in 1994, known now as the Improving America's School Act of 1994. Sections of the law are indicated as titles and chapters.

**Evaluation:** A measurement of the results of a program or the success of a project. The process of obtaining and using reliable information about the effectiveness of a program so that judgment can be made about the usefulness of the program. Evaluation is part of program planning and should be more than test scores or testimonial statements, but can include reliable information from many sources to provide a basis for planning, development, maintenance, and improvement of a program.

**Exit Examination:** A high school test based on statewide content standards required for graduation; goes into effect with the class of 2004 in California.

**Extended Day or Year:** Lengthening the instructional time for students by creating more hours each day or more days per year.

**Federal Register:** A publication comprised primarily of two major publications, the daily Federal Register and the annually revised Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The daily Federal Register and CFR work together to provide an up-to-date version of any federal agency regulation. The Federal Register is published every Federal working day and includes rules and regulations that businesses must follow.

**FEP (Fluent English Proficient):** When a second language student can demonstrate English-language proficiency comparable to that of the average native speaker and can participate equally with average native speaker in the school's regular instructional program, he/she is classified as FEP.

**Fine Motor Skill:** The complex movements of the small muscles used in such activities as handwriting.

**Fiscal Year:** For most states, the fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of a particular year. The federal fiscal year begins October 1 and ends September 30.

**Flexibility:** In much legislation these days, this is the term that is used, but it is always matched with a second term – that of Accountability. In other words, the more accountable you are (as in high student performance levels), the greater is the amount of flexibility that you can have with program requirements.

**Fluency:** The ability to read quickly and accurately.

**Full-Time Equivalent (FTE):** The ratio of time expended in a part-time position to that of a full-time position. A full-time position is 1.0 FTE, whereas a 60% position is referred to as .6 FTE.

**Funding Sources:** District, state, federal or private appropriations or grants that provide money for educational programs.

**GATE (Gifted and Talented Education):** Programs that provide supplementary services for students that have been identified as gifted and/or talented.

**Goal:** The end toward which effort is directed.

**Grant:** Funds awarded to a local educational agency for specific services to be provided at a school or within the district for students, parents, or school staff.

**Gross Motor Skills:** The complex movements of the large muscles as in kicking a ball.

**Guidelines:** Directions written by an agency that administers funds for educational purposes. The guidelines provide directions for applying for funds and the conditions under which the funds may be used when they are received.

*Law – Regulations – Guidelines.*

**Healthy Start:** A state-funded program that brings parents, community members, local schools, and local nonprofit organizations together to improve the health and well-being of students and families.

**Heterogeneous Grouping:** Classes that are composed of students with different ages, interests, and learning needs and abilities. Heterogeneous grouping results in classes that are cross-sections of the school population.

**Homogeneous Grouping:** Classes composed of individuals who have similar characteristics or are much alike.

**IASA (Improving America’s Schools Act):** The federal act that reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 1994.

**IDEA (Individuals With Disabilities Education Act):** Prior to 1975, children with disabilities were either not served in local school systems or placed in segregated, often inadequate settings. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was passed to “assure that all children with disabilities have available to them . . . a free appropriate public education which emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs.” The act ensures that the rights of children and youth with disabilities and their families are protected. It assists states and localities in providing for the education of all children and provides for an assessment of the effectiveness of efforts.

**IEP (Individual Education Plan):** A document for special education students that defines their educational program.

**IIUSP (Immediate Intervention for Underperforming Schools Program):** This program was established through California legislation in the spring of 1999. Schools applied for special funding that would allow the hiring of an outside consultant to assist them with improvement.

**Impact Aid (PL874):** Federal money allocated to school districts that have a large number of parents of school-age children who are federally connected for employment (e.g., military).

**Indirect Costs:** See Costs, indirect.

**Individualized Instruction:** Classroom procedures that provide for the diagnosis of each child’s needs and prescribes programs to meet those needs.

**Inservice Training:** Educational training in program activities for parents, teachers, administrative staff, or the general community to develop or refine skills.

**Instructional Objective:** A statement that describes a change in a learner and that specifies precisely what and how much the student will be able to do at the completion of the instruction.

**Job Description:** A statement of the duties and responsibilities of the person assigned to a position.

**Language Census Report 30:** This report submitted by each school to the California Department of Education annually in April. It is a census of Limited English Proficient students and those who have become fluent.

**Language Development:** Acquisition of those skills such as listening, reading, speaking, and writing needed to communicate ideas.

**LEA (Local Educational Agency):** A board of education or some legal authority having administrative control over public education in a county or school district

**Learning Modalities:** The common way a person learns: visual (seeing); auditory (listening); kinetic (touch).

**Learning Style:** The part of the nervous system which is used often to acquire a new skill or knowledge. For example, a person may learn more easily with an emphasis on listening rather than seeing.

**Legislative Update:** A succinct summary report on current legislation usually delivered by a legislative analyst or legislative advocate.

**Literacy:** The quality or state of being literate. The definition of literacy has changed numerous times in the United States. Basically, literacy is the name given to a set of skills that help people survive or conduct their daily lives and business successfully. Educators, business, and government are beginning to understand that literacy can no longer be considered merely the ability to read, write, and memorize a base of knowledge. Because of ongoing changes and advances in computer and information technologies, information literacy has been expanded to acknowledge more skill sets needed.

**Local Improvement Plan:** Each local school district is required to prepare a plan for delivery of services to students from programs included in the Improving America's School Act of 1994. The plan has five components: Standards and Assessments; Teaching and Learning; Professional Development; Linkages with Parents and Community; and Funding, and Governance. Local Improvement Plans were first submitted to the California Department of Education on October 1, 1996.

**Mainstreaming:** Placing a Special Education student in a regular classroom for part of the day, or all day, to participate in the regular education program.

**Maintenance of Effort:** The state or local school districts must continue to support schools each year from district's funds at the same amount or more than they did before the special funds were available in order to continue to receive the special funds.

**Management Plan:** A statement of tasks to be performed in relation to the program design.

**Manipulative Materials:** Materials which give children concrete experience with a concept; for example, clay, counting frames, and models.

**Master Plan for K-12 Education:** Efforts are taking place to create a master plan for public education in California.

**Master Plan for Special Education:** A California master plan for special education – adopted on January 10, 1974, by the State Board of Education and initially funded under the provisions of AB 4040 – is designed to provide a quality educational program for all mentally and physically handicapped children in the state. It does, among a number of things (1) eliminate categorical labeling; (2) make services available to younger children; (3) provides less restrictive placement; (4) provide continuous evaluation; and (5) provide for regional coordination of services.

**Mathematics:** The study of numbers, quantities, shapes, sets, and operations and of their properties and relationships.

**MDAC:** Multilingual District Advisory Committee.

**Mean:** The average score of a group of scores.

**Median:** The midpoint when numbers or things are arranged in a high-to-low sequence.

**Mentor Teacher:** A specially selected teacher whose task is to work with new and experienced teachers on curriculum and instruction.

**Multicultural Education:** A curriculum which deals with the identification of and the development of appreciation of the contributions of all ethnic groups to the accumulated knowledge, ideas, skills, attitudes, arts, science, and philosophy.

**Multigrade/Nongraded:** In multigrade grouping, a student is placed in a particular grade because of age, but participates in learning activities with students from other grades. In nongraded grouping, classes are composed of students of different ages with no grade level distinctions.

**Multiple Intelligences:** Based on the theories of Dr. Howard Gardner, Harvard University, there are many intelligences such as: linguistic, mathematical, body-kinesthetic, spatial, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, and naturalist.

**National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP):** This is the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students in the US can do in various subject areas. Assessments have been conducted in reading, mathematics, science, writing, history, geography, civics, and the arts since 1969.

**National Norm:** The 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on a standardized test is the national average. “Above the national norm” would include the children who achieve above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or between the 51<sup>st</sup> percentile and the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile. “Below the national norm” would include children who achieve below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or from the 1<sup>st</sup> percentile through the 49<sup>th</sup> percentile.

#### **NCE (Normal Curve Equivalent)**

**No Child Left Behind (NCLB):** The federal act that reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 2002.

#### **NP (National Percentile)**

**Numeracy:** Development in preschool aged students of the sense of numeration systems. The ability to demonstrate a sense of numbers.

**Needs Assessment:** The process of determining the educational needs of children of a school or a district before planning action designed to meet those needs. A planning project which aids in defining the differences between what is and what should be.

**Nonpublic School:** Any school which is not supported by tax money is a nonpublic school. Parochial schools are nonpublic schools. Any nonpublic school located in the attendance area of an LEA that enrolls students from within the LEA’s area may be eligible to receive funds from IASA programs. These schools, however, may not receive state funds.

#### **NRT (Norm Reference Test)**

**Objective:** See instructional objectives

#### **OCR (Office of Civil Rights)**

**Paraprofessional:** See Aides-Paraprofessional

**Parent:** An adult who has custody and/or guardianship of a minor either by law or by birth.

**Parent Compact:** An agreement between two or more parties. Title I, Part A requires school-parent compacts for improved student achievement.

**Parent Participation/Parent Involvement:** The participation of parents and community persons in planning, implementing, and evaluating the educational program.

**Peer Assistance and Review:** This legislation (ABIX) eliminated the mentor teacher program and replaced it with a program to help teachers improve through a method of assistance and evaluation.

**Peer Tutors:** Students of the same age who work together to help each other to achieve a goal.

**Percentile:** A ranking in terms of percentage (100<sup>th</sup> part of an array. of scores). An individual ranking in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile in the measurement of achievement has performed better than 74 of 100 of the group on which the test was standardized. Fiftieth percentile is the norm or average.

**Performance Standards:** Performance standards define the degrees of mastery or the levels of attainment. Performance standards are dependent upon, yet distinct from, content standards, since they are designed to indicate how well a student must perform to show attainment of a content standard.

**Phonemic Awareness:** The awareness of the sounds (phonemes) that make up spoken words.

**Phonics:** The relationship between the sounds of a language and the letters of the language when it is written.

**Portability:** A new term introduced in Congress in 1999 to allow parents to remove their children from low performing Title I schools and go to other schools of their choice. Portability would allow Title I dollars to follow the child to another school.

**Physical Education:** Solutions that help children develop refined muscular skills as visual perception, body awareness, special awareness, gross motor and fine motor skills.

**PL (Public Law):** Laws enacted by the US Congress.

**Pre-Test/Post-Test:** Tests used at the beginning of a program and at the end of a program. Comparison of the pre- and post-test results shows how much a student has learned.

**Priority:** An item (goal, objective, program, activity) which is considered to be of such importance, urgency, or need that decision makers will rank it higher and allocate to it extra resources and preference over other items. (This is an explanation of *high* priority. A *low* priority would be the opposite of the above explanation.)

**Problem Solving Skills:** Usually those techniques which entail a systematic investigation and follow definite steps that reveal solutions.

**Process Evaluation:** A procedure used to monitor how well the means to achieve objectives are progressing. (See Evaluation.)

**Product Evaluation:** A process used to assess how well the objectives of a particular program have been met. (See Evaluation.).

**Proficiency Standards:** Local governing boards are required to adopt minimum standards for basic skills and after June 1980, no student shall receive a high school diploma if he or she has not met those standards. If a student does not demonstrate sufficient progress, then the principal is required to arrange a conference

with the student (in secondary schools), parent, teacher, and principal. Additional action in basic skills shall be provided for any student who does not demonstrate sufficient progress towards mastery of basic skills.

**Program Advisory:** An official - CDE statement sent out to school districts to interpret, in understandable language, a new law, how to operate a new program, changes in a program etc.

**Promotion/Retention:** School districts in California are required to have policies on promotion and retention and programs designed to eliminate social promotion.

**Program/Project Participant:** An identifiable student who is participating in a funded program.

**Proposition 227:** Authored by Ron Unz, Proposition 227 was enacted into law following the June 1998 election. All children, including English Language Learners, must be taught in English and be placed in "English language" classrooms, defined as classrooms in which the language of instruction is "overwhelmingly the English language". (See Education Code 300-340.)

**PSAA:** The Public School Accountability Act program, signed into law April 1999, includes the Academic Performance Index, the Intermediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program, and the High Achieving/Improving School.

**Quartile:** Twenty-five percent of the possible scores on a standardized test. One of the three points along the score scale of a frequency distribution that divides the distributed scores into four parts of equal frequency.

**Q1:** Point below which 25 percent of people scored. Scores between the 1<sup>st</sup> percentile and the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile form the lowest quarter.

**Q2:** Point below which 50 percent of people scored. It is also the median score.

**Q3:** Point below which 75 percent of people scored. Scores above Q3 form the top score, ranked in order from lowest to highest.

**R-30:** (See Language Census Report)

**Rank Order:** A method of rating in which items such as scores of individuals, are placed in order from lowest to highest.

**Raw Score:** The raw score is the score as originally obtained on a test (usually the number of items correct).

**Reading First:** This is a new program under Title I that is aimed at helping all children become successful readers.

**Referral:** A recommendation that a child's educational needs be reviewed for possible placement in a specific program.

**Regulations:** Rules that usually explain or expand on some part of the law. Regulations for federal programs are published in the *Federal Register*.

**Reliability:** The extent to which a person would obtain the same relative score if the test were to be re-administered; that is, the extent to which the test is consistent in measuring.

**Research:** Research implies seeking information to find out more about a given topic, test new ideas within a specified framework, or explore new areas with no boundaries marked.

**RSP (Resource Specialist Program):** Provides instruction to Special Ed. students who are in the regular classroom program for a minimum of 50% of the day.

**Resource Teacher:** A teacher who has knowledge of or expertise in curriculum and who works with the teachers, aides, children, and parents.

**Restructuring:** Redesigning the basic structure of a program.

**Revision:** Refers to revising or changing an application or project in light of new evaluation data or changes in funding that require a change in the program.

**SAC (School Advisory Council)**

**SAPID (School Aged Parenting and Infant Development):** A Child Development Program for high school youth who are parents.

**SB (Senate Bill):** A bill, originating in the Senate, that is presented to the California State Legislature.

**SBCP (School-Based Coordinated Program):** The goal of this program is to provide greater flexibility for schools and school districts in coordinating and using the various funds they receive.

**Schoolwide Project:** A school eligible for Title I funds has two programmatic options: Schoolwide Project or Targeted Assistance. If the concentration of low-income students at the school is 50% or more, the school may choose to become a Schoolwide Project school. The goal in a Schoolwide Project school is to raise the academic achievement of all the students in the school. In a Targeted Assistance School only selected students are eligible for services.

**SCE (State Compensatory Education)**

**SDAIE (Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English):** An extensive training program for teachers of Limited English Proficient students.

**SDC (Special Day Class):** A way of providing Special Education services to students who cannot be successful in a regular classroom.

**SEA (State Education Agency)**

**Self-Contained Class:** An instructional unit within a school that meets in the same classroom and is instructed by the same teacher the entire day.

**SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area)**

**SIP (School Improvement Program):** A provision of legislative bill (AB 65) passed in 1977, (since sunset), to extend the benefits of Early Childhood Education from grades K-3 to 4-12, (to restructure elementary, intermediate, and secondary education to ensure that all schools can respond in a timely and effective manner to the educational, personal, and career needs of every pupil).

**Special Education:** Programs to identify and meet the educational needs of children with emotional learning or physical disabilities. PL 94-142 requires that all children with disabilities be provided a free and appropriate education from infant until 21 years of age.

**SSC (School Site Council):** A School Site Council, made up of parents, classroom teachers, school staff, and the principal, is a requirement of the School Improvement Program.

**SST (Student Study Team):** A team of school staff, including teachers and support staff, who meet to discuss appropriate ways to improve student performance, behavior, or attendance.

**Standardized Achievement Test:** A testing instrument to measure the amount of skills an individual or a group has learned. It is called standardized because it has been used with a sample of pupils that represents all groups in the total population. The achieved score can be converted to various norms which compare a student's performance to that of others in the group.

**Standards:** A standard represents a specific idea of what the teacher expects a student to recall, replicate, manipulate, understand, or demonstrate (content standards) and how the teacher will know how close a student has come to meeting that standard (performance standards).

**Stanford 9:** The standardized test administered in all California schools, grades 2-11. The first test was administered in Spring of 1998.

**Stanine (S-9):** The term stanine refers to a standard 9 scale. The scores range from a low of 1 to a high of 9 with 4, 5, 6 representing the medium range. Stanines allow for direct comparison of scores between different types of tests.

**STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting):** California's testing program administered to students in grades 2-11.

**State Compensatory Education:** Provides additional funding for supplementary educational opportunities for pupils achieving below the national norm on standardized tests in basic curriculum areas.

**State Education Agency (SEA):** This is the state agency that is responsible for supervision of public elementary and secondary schools – usually the Department of Education.

**State Preschool:** A state-funded child development program to introduce young children (ages 3 to 5 years) to an atmosphere of learning designed to improve their performance and motivation before entering kindergarten.

**Supplant:** To replace or to be used instead of. For example, Title I funds may not be used to supplant state or local funds for education.

**Supplementary:** Additional, over and above what is already required. For example, Title I funds must be supplemental to the regular school program.

**TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families):** The welfare reform program that has replaced AFDC (*Aid for Families with Dependent Children – see CalWorks*).

**Targeted Assistance Schools:** A school in which many children from low income families are enrolled and which is eligible for Title I. Selected students who are not meeting grade level standards are designated to be the recipients of Title I services.

**Task Force:** A group that is established to study a special problem and report their findings.

**Test:** An instrument designed to measure a student's grasp of some body of knowledge or proficiency in certain skills.

**Targeted Instructional Improvement Grant (TIIG):** A program providing funding to previous participants in court-ordered and voluntary integration programs to support court orders still in force and to provide instructional improvement for the lowest achieving pupils. This program is replacing desegregation programs.

**Title I:** Improving basic programs operated by local education agencies.

**Part A:** Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged: Assistance for students enrolled in high-poverty schools.

**Part B:** Student Reading Skills Improvement (Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start): A new reading program. Early Reading is for preschool.

**Part C:** Migrant Education Program: Education for migratory children.

**Part D:** Neglected and Delinquent: For students who have been neglected and/or delinquent.

**Part F:** Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration: These are for scientifically-based reform.

## **Title II**

**Part A:** Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals: Teacher and principal training and recruitment programs

**Part D:** Enhancing Education Through Technology: Training teachers how to use technology in the classroom.

**Title III:** Language Instruction for Limited-English Proficient and Immigrant Students: English language instruction.

## **Title IV**

**Part A:** 21st Century Schools: After-school programs

**Part B:** Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities: Anti-drug programs.

## **Title V**

**Part A:** State and Innovative Programs (block grant): Flexible funding for a wide range of school activities.

**Part B, Subpart 1:** Public Charter Schools: Development of public charter schools.

**Part B, Subpart 2:** Public Schools Choice: Allows students to choose their own schools.

**Part C:** Magnet Schools: Schools with specialized curricula.

**Part D:** Fund for Innovation in Education: Competitive programs.

## **Title VI:**

**Part A:** Improving Academic Achievement: Accountability for states, transferability authority, State-Flex, and Local-Flex demonstrations.

**Part B:** Rural Education Initiative: Transferability and formula grants for small, rural districts.

**Title VII:** Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native Education: Special programs for Native Americans.

**Title VIII: Impact Aid:** Aid for school districts affected by presence of military bases, Indian reservations, and other nontaxable federal land.

**Title IX: General Provisions:** Definitions, consolidated planning, consolidated administration, waivers.

**Trailer Bill:** A way to attach special legislation onto budget legislation.

**Transferability:** A new provision of No Child Left Behind allows states and districts authority to transfer a portion of the funds they receive under certain federal programs to other programs that most effectively address their unique needs.

**Universal Preschool:** The concept of regular schooling for children prior to kindergarten.

**Unsafe School Choice Option:** Students who persistently attend dangerous public schools or have been victims of violent crime at school are allowed to transfer to a safer public school.

**Vocational Education (Voc Ed):** Programs that focus on the needs of young people in preparation for future employment.

**Voucher:** Usually defined as the ability of a parent to transfer funds from one school to another when the parent chooses to enroll a child in a school other than the District designated school – including a transfer to a nonpublic, private school.

**Waiver:** A request for relief from a requirement of the State Education Code by a local school district. Good reasons must exist for applying to the State Board of Education for such relief or waiver. The State Board of Education is not empowered to waive any of the requirements of federally funded programs. However, since 1994, federal waivers are available for some IASA program requirements.

**Workshop:** A meeting in which groups may engage in activities related to a common interest. A place or time where school staff members and parents may plan and construct games or learning devices or evaluate materials to be used to help a child learn a skill or concept.

**Year-Round Schools:** A schedule of classes throughout the calendar year that fully utilizes school facilities. Students attend in various schedules so that some are “off track” while others are in school.