

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
Title I Parent Involvement Program
Frequently Used Terms/Definitions/Abbreviations

Revised November 10, 2014

- Alert Schools** – An Alert School is one whose achievement falls far below the state’s average performance on statewide assessments and/or graduation rate. Alert Schools are identified annually.
- ACCESS** – (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Learners (EL)) – An assessment administered annually to all English Learners (EL) to assess social and instructional English as well as the language associated with language arts, math, science and social studies.
- Benchmark** – A detailed description of a specific level of student performance expected of students at particular ages, grades or developmental levels. Benchmarks are often represented by samples of student work.
- Best Practice** – A teaching or instructional method, strategy, or activity that is proven to be an effective learning tool for students.
- BRIDGE** – (Building Resourceful Individuals to Develop Georgia’s Economy) Law
- CCGPS** – (Common Core Georgia Performance Standards) – CCGPS are a standard set of goals for what students should know and be able to do by the time they complete a grade level and then ultimately, graduate from high school. These goals are the teacher’s guide as to what to teach and how thoroughly to treat a topic or subject. With the defined knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers, they will graduate high school able to succeed in college/technical school or enter the work force.
- CCRPI** – (College and Career Readiness Performance Index) – CCRPI replaces Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). The CCRPI has multiple indicators to determine a school’s performance, rather than using a single test score given at one point in time. CCRPI indicates the level of achievement required for a student to enroll in college or technical school without remediation – fully prepared for college level work or a career.
- CDA** – (Common District Assessment) - end-of-unit or mid-unit tests developed for each subject area. They are taken by all students in the school system. These assessments count toward students' grades and inform instruction for teachers.
- CLIP** – (Comprehensive Local Education Agency Improvement Plan) – The comprehensive plan of a school system that directs all educational activities, informs of education decisions for all programs, and identifies funding sources at the state and federal levels. This plan represents the school systems’ comprehensive, unified plan for school improvement. All Douglas County School System parents may participate in this decision-making process addressing improvements in the district which address the needs of all students.
- Compact** – School-Parent Compact – The School-Parent Compact is a written agreement that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement. The compact also defines how the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state’s high standards. All Title I Schools are required to collaborate with parents to annually revise the

compact. Each school year, School-Parent Compacts are distributed to parents, students and school representatives for signatures and review.

Core Content Areas – Areas of study: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

CRCT – (Criterion Referenced Competency Test) – The CRCT was the state-required test to measure student acquisition of the knowledge and skills set forth in the state curriculum from 2000 through 2014.

CTAE – (Career, Technical and Agriculture Education)

CTI – (Career Technical Instruction) – Co-teaching support that is provided in vocational classes by certified special education teachers for students with disabilities.

CTSO – (Career, Technical Student Organization) – These are leadership and skill competition clubs like DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), FCCLA (Family, Career & Community Leaders of America) formerly Future Homemakers of America, FEA (Future Educators Association®), FFA (Future Farmers of America), HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), and SkillsUSA (Students Taking Action with Recognition).

EDS – (Economically Disadvantaged Students) – For the purpose of the ESEA Flexibility Waiver and other reports, Georgia defines EDS as students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunch. For schools with federal waivers, all students are classified as economically disadvantaged; this data is collected as part of the student record.

EHCY – (Education for Homeless Children and Youth) – To address the problems that homeless children and you have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school

EIP – (Early Intervention Program) – A program designed to serve students in grades kindergarten through five who are at risk of not reaching or maintaining academic grade level as defined in the department's *Early Intervention Program Guidelines*.

EL – (English Learners) – Students whose primary or home language is other than English and who are eligible for services based on the results of an English language skill evaluation.

EOC/EOCT – (End of Course/End of Course Test) – There are 8 EOCs for grades 9-12. They are given in the areas of Ninth Grade Literature and Composition, American Literature and Composition, Coordinate Algebra, Analytic Geometry, Economics, US History, Physical Science and Biology.

EOG – (End of Grade) – Students in grades 3 through 8 will take an end-of-grade assessment in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies.

E-Rate – Provides discounts to assist schools, school systems, and libraries in the US to obtain affordable telecommunications and internet access.

ESEA – (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) – formerly No Child Left Behind. The federal law that authorizes funding and contains the current requirements for Title I and other federal educational programs. The ESEA was enacted in 1965. It expands the federal role in K-12 education and was written to help close the achievement gap between disadvantaged and minority students and their peers. It is based on four basic principles: Strong accountability for results, increased flexibility and local control, expanded options for parents, and an emphasis on teaching methods that have been proven to work.

FLP – (Flexible Learning Program) – An intervention program for all Title I Focus School and designated Priority Schools. The program provides additional instruction or education programs for

all eligible Title I students and serves as an alternative supplemental academic intervention that allows the school district greater flexibility in designing an extended learning program. FLP's are tailored to the needs of the school and provide students at-risk of failing with additional learning opportunities.

Focus Schools – Focus schools are among the lowest ten percent of Title I schools based on school subgroup gaps. Focus schools are identified every three years.

FRM – (Free or Reduced price Meals)

GAC – (Georgia Accrediting Commission)

GACE – (Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators)

GADOE – (Georgia Department of Education)

GHSGT – (Georgia High School Graduation Test) – These tests are comprised of multiple-choice assessments in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. These curriculum-based assessments are administered in grade 11 for the first time. Students have multiple opportunities to take these tests prior to graduation. Passing scores on these tests are required for students who entered high school prior to July 1, 2011 and are seeking a regular high school diploma. NOTE: Students entering high school between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2011 may satisfy assessment graduation requirements by passing an associated EOCT (End of Course Test) in the applicable content area.

GHSWT – (Georgia High School Writing test) – This test is designed to assess the writing skills of high school students. It is administered for the first time in 11th grade and a passing score is required for students seeking a regular diploma.

GKIDS – (Georgia Kindergarten Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills) – A year-long, Kindergarten performance-based assessment aligned to the state standards.

GMAS – (Georgia Milestones Assessment System or Georgia Milestones) – A comprehensive summative assessment program that will span grades 3 through high school. Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted content standards in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students in grades 3 through 8 will take an end-of-grade assessment in each content area, while high school students will take an end-of-course assessment for each of the eight courses designated by the State Board of Education. Features the Georgia Milestone Assessment System include:

- open-ended (constructed-response) items in language arts and mathematics (all grades and courses);
- a writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the language arts assessment;
- norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses, to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison; and
- transition to online administration over time, with online administration considered the primary mode of administration and paper-pencil as back-up until the transition is complete.

- Graduation Rate** – Used as a CCRPI (College and Career Readiness Performance Index) indicator for high schools. Georgia has determined a graduate as a student who leaves high school with a regular diploma in the standard time (i.e. 4 years and a summer).
- HiQ** – (Highly Qualified Teacher or Paraprofessional) – A HiQ person is one who has completed all certification requirements and is teaching in the certified content area.
- IDEA** – (Individual with Disabilities Education Act) – A federal law mandating that all children with disabilities have access to a free, appropriate public education provided through special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs of these and prepares them for employment and independent living.
- IEP** – (Individualized Educational Plan) – A written plan for each student with disabilities that identifies the expected outcomes and defines the educational support services to meet their needs. This plan is developed for each eligible student with a disability in accordance with the requirements of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).
- ILT** – (Instructional Lead Teacher) - Provides support and assistance to classroom teachers in the areas of reading and/or math to enhance student achievement.
- LEA** – (Local Education Agency) – Also known as a school district or school system.
- LKES** – (Leader Keys Effectiveness System) – Georgia’s system to evaluate school administrators.
- Lexile** – A Lexile is a measure of a student’s reading ability or reading level. Lexiles do not address age-appropriateness, and individual’s interests, or test quality. The Lexile measure is a good starting point in picking a book for your child. www.lexile.com/findabook is a fun and easy way to find books at the student’s Lexile (reading) level.
- NCLB Waiver** – (No Child Left Behind) Waiver – Georgia is one of many states to have been granted a waiver from NCLB. The waiver enables the state to hold Georgia schools accountable and reward them for the work they do in all subjects and with all students. The U.S. Department of Education required that states identify Title I Priority Schools, Focus Schools and Reward Schools based on achievement and graduation rate data.
- OAS** – (Online Assessment System) – Formerly known as the CRCT Online System. Enables students in Georgia’s public schools to access tests that consist of the same kinds of questions as appear on two of Georgia’s end-of-year assessments.
- Parent Involvement Policy** – Local School districts and all schools in that district that receive Title I funds must have a written Title I Parent Involvement Policy. The plan is jointly developed with, agreed upon, and distributed to parents of participating students. The Title I Parent Involvement Policy describes the school district or schools responsibility to provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a learning environment that allows students to meet the state’s achievement standards. The plan also provides assistance to parents in ways to support their children’s learning. In collaboration with parents of participating students, both district and school parent policies are reviewed and revised annually.
- Perkins** – (Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Improvement Act) – To help develop more fully the academic, career and technical skills of secondary and postsecondary students.
- PRC** – (Parent Resource Center) – An area in a school that may be comprised of literature, resources and other materials for the parents/caregivers of students that support student learning. Parent Resource Centers also offer a lending library for parents loaning games, puzzles, books, and DVD’s that may be used at home to help their child academically.

- POF** – (Parent Outreach Facilitator) – Person who is responsible for the Parental Involvement program at the following Title I schools: Beulah ES, Burnett ES, North Douglas ES, Stewart MS, Sweetwater ES and Turner MS.
- POI** – (Pyramid of Intervention) – Also known as the Georgia student achievement Pyramid of Interventions. A conceptual framework that will enable all students in Georgia to continue to make great gains in school through the schools implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI) efforts. RTI is the framework in which schools provide a multi-tiered system of supports to all students according to their individual needs.
- Priority School** – A school among the lowest five percent of Title I schools based on the achievement of all students in terms of ability on statewide assessments. Priority schools are identified every three years.
- Promethean Board** – The Promethean Board is an interactive whiteboard that helps energize lessons and motivate learners. The Promethean Board engages students by combining the simplicity of a whiteboard with the power of a computer.
- RESA** – (Regional Educational Service Agency) – Provides services and resources to public schools. Douglas County’s RESA is Metro RESA.
- Reward School** – Title I school with the highest performance (5%) of Title I schools or making the greatest progress (10%) of Title I schools. Reward schools are identified each year and replaces Distinguished School designation.
- RTI** – (Response to Intervention) – Response to Intervention is the core of school improvement and the framework to address the needs of all students. It is a four-tier delivery model, using evidence-based instruction and interventions to answer the questions – (1) “Is this student learning at a rate consistent with peers?”; (2) “What are we going to do if the student is not learning?”; and (3) “How do we know that what we are doing is working?”. RTI requires on-going progress monitoring for students receiving Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports.
- SACS** – (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) – Founded in 1895, SACS accredits over 13,000 schools and school systems throughout the United States and overseas.
- SIP** – (School Improvement Plan) – The comprehensive plan of a school system or a school that directs all educational activities and informs all educational decisions, for all programs and all funding sources, state and federal.
- SLO** – (Student Learning Objectives) – Content-specific, grade level learning objectives that are measureable, focused on growth in student learning, and aligned to curriculum standards.
- SOW** – (Scope of Work)
- STEM** – (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
- Subgroup** – State or federally defined student groups who share a characteristic such as students with disabilities, or female students.
- SST** – (Student Support Team) – Every Georgia public school is required to have a Student Support Team (SST) for grades K-12. Its purpose is to plan alternative instructional strategies and identify students prior to or in lieu of a special education referral. SST falls under the RTI Tier 3 support level. This problem-solving team includes the parent(s) with a number of people within the school. Parent involvement is a critical part of the SST problem-solving process. The RTI (Response to Intervention) and SST process should

not be by-passed. These two levels of support provide valuable information if eligibility for special education needs to be determined.

SWD – Students with Disabilities

SWP – (School-Wide Program) – A Title I program serving schools with 40% or more of students qualifying for the free-reduced lunch status. All students in a School-wide Title I school are served in the program.

TA/TAP – (Targeted Assistance/Targeted Assistance Program) – A Title I program only serving targeted students. Douglas County does not have any TA Title I schools.

Title I Part A – Provides federal funds to public schools with high numbers of percentages of poor children to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic content.

Title I Part C – Migrant Education Program that provides federal funds to support educational programs for migrant children.

Title I Part D – Provides federal funds to meet the academic needs of Neglected and Delinquent Children who reside in local and state institutions.

Title II Part A – Provides federal funds to achieve highly qualified, highly effective educators in every public school

Title II Part D – Provides federal funds to improve student academic achievement through the use of technology.

Title III – Provides federal funds to schools to supplement English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Title IV – Provides federal funds to ensure that all public schools are safe and drug-free schools.

Title VI Part B – Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) – Provides federal funds to rural school districts to improve the quality of instruction and student academic achievement.

TKES – (Teacher Keys Effectiveness System) – Georgia’s system to evaluate teachers.

W-APT – An assessment to screen EL (English Learners) language.

WIDA – (World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment) – A K-12 series of English language proficiency assessments for EL (English Learners) students.