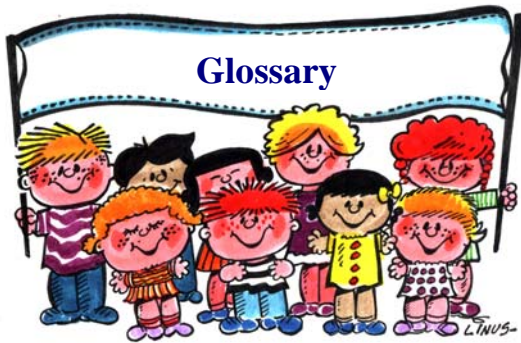


# Section 29

**BUZZ WORDS**

Glossary  
Acronyms





*The Glossary Section was compiled from definitions suggested by EdSource; School Services of California, and other groups and organizations associated with California public education. Appreciation is extended to these groups and organizations for their work in developing 'user-friendly' terms.*

**AB1200** — Legislation passed in 1991 which defined a system of fiscal accountability for school districts and county offices of education to prevent bankruptcy. The law requires districts to do multi-year financial projections, identify sources of funding for substantial cost increases such as employee raises, and make public the cost implications of such increases before approving employee contracts.

**ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INDEX (API)** — One of the three components of California's new Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA), the API measures the performance of schools, especially the academic achievement of pupils, and improvement over time. A school's API score is used as the basis for ranking California's public schools.

**ACCOMMODATIONS** — Modifications in the way tests are designed or administered to respond to the special needs of students with disabilities and English learners (EL). Accommodations might include allowing a student to take more time for a test, use a calculator, or use Braille forms of the assessment.

**ACCOUNTABILITY** — The notion that people, such as students or teachers, or an organization, such as a school, school district, or state Department of Education, should be held responsible for improving student achievement and should be rewarded or sanctioned for their success or lack of success in doing so.

**ACCOUNT CODE** — A number assigned to sources of revenues or purposes of expenditures. School districts and county offices will begin phasing in a new account code structure in 1996.

**ACHIEVEMENT TEST** — A test to measure a student's knowledge and skills.

**ACT** — A bill passed by the Legislature.

**ACT** — A set of college admissions tests and the organization that makes them, the American College Testing Program, located in Iowa City, Iowa. Most colleges now accept either the SAT or the ACT for admissions purposes.

**ACTION** — Disposition of any questions before the Legislature

**AD VALOREM TAXES** — Taxes based on the value of property -- such as the standard property tax. The only new taxes based on the value of property that are allowed today are those imposed with a two-thirds voter approval for capital facilities bonded indebtedness.

**ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP)** — A statewide accountability system mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 which requires each state to ensure that all schools and districts make Adequate Yearly Progress.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAM AND AP EXAMS** — A cooperative educational program between high school students and institutions of higher education that offers high school students the opportunity to complete college-level courses and earn college credit for them.

**ADJOURNMENT** — Termination of a meeting; occurring at the close of each legislative day upon the completion of business, with the hour and day of the next meeting being set prior to adjournment.

**ADULT EDUCATION** — Classes for students 18 years or older offered by local high schools. State law requires that certain courses, including citizenship and English, be offered at no charge. Their classes may carry a fee. Adult Education revenues and expenditures must be tracked separately from a school district's general fund.

**AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN (AFDC)** — Children whose low-income families receive AFDC qualify for a number of state and federal categorical aid programs. The count of AFDC children is one of the factors used to distribute these funds.

**ALIGNMENT** — The degree to which assessments, curriculum, instruction, textbooks and other instructional materials, teacher preparation and professional development, and systems of accountability all reflect and reinforce the educational program's objectives and standards.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)** — Federal law requiring accessibility and equal services for persons with disabilities.

**APPORTIONMENTS** — Federal or state taxes distributed to school districts or other governmental units according to certain formulas.

**APPROPRIATIONS** — Funds set aside or budgeted by the state or local school districts for a specific time period and specific purpose.

**APPROVED TRANSPORTATION COSTS** — The costs of home-to-school transportation plus other special education related transportation (e.g. school-to-school or school-to-therapist transportation) and the costs of bus replacement.

**ASSEMBLY** — The Lower House of the California Legislature, consisting of 80 members, elected from districts apportioned on the basis of population, who serve two-year terms.

**ASSEMBLY BILLS** — Major school finance laws which originated in the Assembly passed by the California Legislature since 1972. See also Proposition(s) and Senate Bill(s).

**AB 65 (1977)** initiated a 'long term' solution to the Serrano-Priest decision, the School Improvement Program and several other programs.

**AB 8 (1979)** defined the source and method of funding schools, counties, cities and special districts, including the allocation of property taxes.

**AB 777 (1981)** allowed waivers to the Education Code, revised revenue limit formulas and consolidated some categorical programs at local levels.

**AB 198 (1989)** defined implementation along with SB 98 (1989) of Proposition 98 (1988), Classroom Instructional Improvement and Accountability act.

In other years funding for education is included in the State Budget Act and follow-up legislation.

**ASSESSED VALUE** — A valuation of 25% of the market value of land, homes or businesses set by the county assessor for property tax purposes. Market value is the cost of any newly built or purchased property or the value on March 1, 1975, of continuously owned property plus an annual increase of 2%. (See Proposition 13)

**ASSESSMENT** — A system for testing and evaluating students, groups of students, schools, or districts. (See also STAR)

**ASSESSMENT OF APPLIED ACADEMIC SKILLS** — As defined by the California State Legislature, a standards-based matrix test – a test in which not all students would take every section – administered to pupils in grades 4, 5, 8, and 10. The purpose of this assessment is to gauge school and district performance. It does not yield individual student scores.

**ASSESSMENT IN CAREER EDUCATION (ACE)** — A program designed to recognize California high school students who demonstrate achievement in selected career-technical areas, including agriculture, computer science and information systems, and health care. Students who do well in an ACE exam receive an Aware of Excellence from the state and have their achievement recorded on their high school transcripts.

**ATTENDANCE REPORTS** — Each school district reports its attendance three times during a school year. The First Principal Apportionment ADA, called the P-1 ADA or the P-1 count, is

counted from July 1 through the last school month ending on or before December 31 of a school year. The Second Principal Apportionment ADA, called the P-2 ADA, is counted from July 1 through the last school month ending on or before April 15 of a school year. Fiscal or annual ADA is based on the count from July 1 through June 30. The final recalculation of the apportionment is based on the P-2 ADA except for adult education programs, regional occupational centers and programs and nonpublic school funding, all of which use the annual count of ADA.

**AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE (ADA)** — The number of students present each school day throughout the year, divided by the total number of school days in the school year. A student attending school every day would equal one ADA. ADA approximates 98% of the average enrollment statewide. A school district's revenue limit income is based on its ADA.

**BASIC AID** — The minimum grant of \$120 per K-12 pupil guaranteed by the California Constitution. The amount is included in a school district's revenue limit; it is paid even in the few instances when a district's property tax income exceeds its revenue limit.

**BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (BTSA)** — Established with the enactment of Senate Bill 1422 in 1992. 'The purpose of BTSA is to implement cost-effective models for new teacher development in order to 'transform academic preparation into practical success in the classroom, and to retain greater numbers of capable beginning teachers.' The BTSA local programs are all consortia that include a college or university, a county office of education, one or more school districts, and at least one local teacher organization. The BTSA program offers beginning teachers ongoing, consistent support for experienced colleagues at the school site. It also includes formative assessments – such as classroom observations, reflective journals, and portfolios – to help beginning teachers assess and improve their own teaching.

**BICAMERAL** — A legislature comprised of two houses.

**BILINGUAL EDUCATION** — Programs for students with limited proficiency in English. Some federal and state categorical funds are targeted for bilingual education. School districts develop their own programs within specific parameters.

**BLOCK GRANT** — A lump sum allocation of special purpose funds intended to give local jurisdictions greater discretion over expenditures.

**BLUE PENCIL** — The term used to describe the governor's veto of certain items from the Budget Bill or certain appropriations from other bills.

**BOND MEASURE** — bonds allow school districts to borrow funds to pay for a large capital investment – much as a person borrows to purchase a home. Voters in a school district authorize a local general obligation bond. The principal and interest and repaid by local property owners through an increase in property taxes. Local bond measures may require either a two-thirds or a majority voter approval, depending on the bond measure structure. A simple majority of state voters much approve a state general obligation bond, which is repaid by state taxes and has no impact on property tax rates.

**BONDED INDEBTEDNESS** — An obligation incurred by the sale of bonds for acquisition of school facilities or other capital expenditures. Districts may levy a local property tax to repay debts which were approved by a two-thirds vote prior to June 1978 or since 1986.

**BONUS PAY – PERFORMANCE PAY** — Extra money for school district employees who perform extra duties or are considered exemplary. In some states, performance pay is being offered as an incentive for teachers to improve their students' performance. In California, both employee pay and benefits are determined in collective bargaining, according to state law.

**BUDGET ACT** — The legislative vehicle for the state's budget appropriations. The state Constitution requires that it be passed by a two-thirds vote of each house and sent to the governor by June 15 each year. The governor may reduce or delete, but not increase, individual items.

**BUILDING FUND** — Accounting term used to designate school district funds which a district received through bonds, or the sale or rental of property. The use of these funds is restricted.

**CALIFORNIA BASIC EDUCATION DATA SYSTEM (CBEDS)** — California Basic Education Data System. Collected from each school in the fall, CBEDS reports contain statistical information about schools, teachers and students.

**CALIFORNIA BASIC EDUCATION SKILLS TEST (CBEST)** — The California Basic Education Skills Test is required of anyone seeking certification as a teacher. The test measures proficiency in reading, writing and mathematics.

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS (CCR)** — Regulations that have been formally adopted by approximately 200 regulatory agencies in the state, including the State Board of Education.

**CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE (Ed Code)** — A collection of all the laws directly related to California K-12 public schools. Ed Code sections are created or changed by the governor and Legislature when they make laws. Local school boards and county office of education are responsible for complying with these provisions. The Ed Code is permissive, which means that school districts are free to take any action not specifically prohibited.

**CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM (CAHSEE)** — Beginning with the Class of 2004, California public school students must pass the state's new exit exam before receiving their high school diploma. The exit exam is not a college entrance or honors exam. Its purpose is to test whether students have mastered the academic skills necessary to succeed in the adult world. It is a pass-fail exam divided into two sections: language arts (reading and writing) and mathematics. Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors can take the test. Once students pass a section of the test, they do not have to take it again.

**CALIFORNIA PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST** — A mandated statewide physical performance test administered during the spring to students in grades 5, 7, and 9. The assessment evaluated students' aerobic capacity, body composition, and muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility.

**CALIFORNIA STANDARDS FOR THE TEACHING PROFESSION (CSTP)** — In 1997, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing adopted professional standards to guide teacher preparation programs and new teacher assessments. These standards are organized around six interrelated categories of teaching practice: 1) engaging and supporting all students in learning; 2) creating and maintaining effective environments for student learning; 3) understanding and organizing subject matter for student learning; 4) planning instruction and designing learning experiences for all students; 5) assessing student learning; and 6) developing as a professional educator.

**CALL OF THE HOUSE** — Directive by the presiding officer of either house on a motion from the Floor, empowering the Sergeant-at-Arms to lock the chamber and 'bring in the absent members--by 'arrest' if necessary'--to vote on a measure under consideration. (Action on the specific item is suspended until the motion to lift the call is made, at which time an immediate vote must be taken.)

**CALL, THE** — Order of the presiding officer of either house directing the Reading Clerk to call the names of members who have not responded to the roll call.

**CAPITAL OUTLAY** — Money spent for major physical changes to a school such as new buildings, renovations, reconstruction, or certain new equipment. These investments in the physical structure of a school are expected to last for a number of years.

**CASTING VOTE** — The deciding vote which the Lieutenant Governor, acting as President of the Senate, may cast in the case of a tie vote in the Senate.

**CATEGORICAL AID** — Funds from the state or federal government granted to qualifying school districts for children with special needs, such as educationally handicapped; for special programs, such as the School Improvement Program; or for special purposes, such as Economic Impact Aid or transportation. Expenditure of most categorical aid is restricted to its particular

purpose. The funds are granted to districts in addition to the funding schools receive for their general education program.

**CAUCUS** — An informal meeting of a group of the members frequently called on the basis of party affiliation. Also, includes the research staff and offices of the minority party and majority party leaders.

**CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES** — Employees who are required by the state to hold teaching credentials, including full-time, part-time, substitute or temporary teachers and most administrators. These requirements include having a bachelor's degree, completing additional required coursework, and passing the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST). However, teachers who have not yet acquired a credential but have an emergency permit are allowed to teach in the classroom and are counted in this category.

**CHAPTER 1, 2** — See ECIA., Title I and Title IV.

**CHAPTER OUT** — Provisions of one chaptered bill conflict with another; the bill with the highest chapter number prevails.

**CHAPTERED BILL** — A measure which has passed the Legislature, been signed by the Governor and assigned a number, known as the chapter number, by the Secretary of State.

**CHARTER SCHOOLS** — originally authorized in California in 1992, charter schools are public schools that operate outside many state laws and regulations governing public education. They are publicly funded but granted greater flexibility than other public schools in return for being held accountable for their students' educational progress. There are over 750 charter schools in California. Up to 100 more charter schools are permitted in the state each year until the Legislature reviews the charter school laws in 2003.

**CHOICE** — A term used to describe the right of parents to be able to choose where to send their children to school. Parents and others who support school choice have spawned the charter school, school voucher, and other school reform movements. California public school districts have intra-and interdistrict public school choice policies, whereby a student may choose to attend a participating school outside the student's neighborhood if space permits.

**CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964** — Federal legislation passed in 1964 that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race or ethnicity, by any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance. This was followed by Title IX in 1972, Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, that included prohibitions on discrimination on the basis of gender, disability, and age.

**CLASS SIZE PENALTIES** — Financial penalties imposed on school districts that have classes in excess of certain maximum sizes. Class size penalties result in a reduction in ADA which, in turn, results in a loss in revenue limit income.

**CLASS SIZE REDUCTION (CSR)** — Initiated in the 1996-97 school year for kindergarten through third grade, the state has two programs that provide incentive funding for schools to reduce or maintain class sizes of no more than 20 students per teacher. One program covers kindergarten through third grade classes. A separate program supports smaller classes for core academic subjects in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES** — School employees who are not required to hold teaching credentials, such as secretaries, custodians, bus drivers, instructional aides and some management personnel.

**COLLECTIVE BARGAINING** — A process for establishing a contract between a school district and its employee organizations. Senate Bill 160 (1975) defined the manner and scope of negotiations, and mandated a state regulatory board. Also known as the Rodda Act.

**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING (CTC)** — State agency that sets standards to ensure that teachers are well prepared to enter the classroom

**CONCURRENCE** — Agreement or union in action; i.e., one house concurring in amendments made in the other house.

**CONCURRENTLY ENROLLED** — Pupils who are both enrolled in a regular program for at least the minimum school day and also in a regional occupational center or program (ROC/P) or classes for adults. Such a student will generate both regular ADA for the time in the regular program plus concurrently enrolled ADA for the time in ROC/P or adult classes. By qualifying for both regular ADA and concurrently enrolled ADA, such a student can generate more than one unit of ADA.

**CONSOLIDATION** — The combining of two or more elementary or high school districts with adjoining borders to form a single district.

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)** — A measure of the cost of living compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, often used as a measure of inflation. Consumer price indices are calculated regularly for the United States, California, some regions within California and selected cities. The CPI is one of several measures of economic change.

**CONTENT STANDARDS** — These academic standards describe what students should know and be able to do in core academic subjects at each grade level.

**CONTROL LANGUAGE** — Budget act language that directs or puts limitations on expenditures of budget appropriations.

**COST OF EDUCATION INDEX** — A measure of variation in costs for individual school districts, such as for utilities, gasoline and the cost of living in the geographical area.

**COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA)** — An increase in funding for revenue limits or categorical programs. Current law ties COLAs to various indices. The amounts appropriated in a particular year may not be related to inflation.

**CREDENTIALING – TEACHER PREPARATION** — A process, implemented by the state Commission of Teaching Credentialing (CTC), to certify that teachers are well prepared to enter the classroom.

**CRITERIA AND STANDARDS** — Minimum fiscal standards, established by the state, for monitoring district and county solvency and accountability.

**CRITERION-REFERENCED TEST** — A test that measures specific performance or content standards, often along a continuum from total lack of skill to excellence. These tests can also have cut scores that determine whether a test-taker has passed or failed the test or has basic, proficient, or advanced skills. Criterion-referenced tests, unlike norm-referenced tests, are not primarily created to compare students to each other. The goal is typically to have everyone attain a passing mark.

**CTA V. GOULD** — Lawsuit challenging schools' obligation to repay loans or 'prepayments' given to schools in the early 1990s when the state allocation exceeded the minimum funding level guaranteed by Proposition 98.

**CURRENT EXPENSE OF EDUCATION** — The general operating expenditures of a school district excluding food services, capital outlay, community services, debt repayment and tuition payments.

**CURRICULUM** — The course of study offered by a school or district. California has developed a set of standards that are intended to guide curriculum and instruction. The state also approves K-8 textbooks that reflect those standards.

**CURRICULUM FRAMEWORKS** — The blueprint for schools to use to implement the state-adopted content standards. In California, State Curriculum Frameworks are developed by the Curriculum Development and Supplemental Materials Commission, an advisory group, and adopted by the State Board of Education.

**DE FACTO SEGREGATION** — Racial segregation which is not intentional, that is, not due to acts of governing bodies.

**DE JURE SEGREGATION** — Racial segregation which is caused by the acts of governing bodies and is therefore intentional.

**DEFERRED MAINTENANCE** — Major repairs of buildings and equipment which have been postponed by school districts. Some matching state funds are available to districts which establish a deferred maintenance program.

**DEFICITS** — Funding shortfalls which occur whenever the state appropriations are insufficient to fund local district and county entitlements.

**DEFICIT FACTOR** — Reductions in state allocations to school districts or county offices of education caused by insufficient state appropriations.

**DEVELOPER FEES** — A charge per square foot on residential and commercial construction. Developer fees are levied by school districts, with the maximum amount set by the state. Proceeds are used for building or renovating schools and for portable classrooms.

**DIRECT SERVICES** — Services, including, business, attendance, health, guidance, library, and supervision of instruction (K-8 only), performed without cost by county offices of education for small districts; elementary, high school and unified districts with less than 901, 301 and 1501 ADA respectively.

**DO PASS** — The affirmative recommendation made by a legislative committee to send a bill to the floor for final vote.

**DOUBLE JOIN** — Incorporate provisions of one bill into another to avoid the possibility of provisions conflicting with each other.

**DROPPED** — Bill has been killed or removed from consideration.

**ECIA** — The Federal Educational Consolidation and Improvement Act (1981). Chapter 1 of the Act is the former Title I program for educationally disadvantaged children. Chapter 2 consists of multiple programs consolidated into block grants to states and local districts.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT (EIA)** — State categorical aid for districts with concentrations of children who are bilingual, transient or from low-income families.

**EDUCATION ARTICLE** — The article in the state's constitution that defines and describes the state's responsibility to provide public education for its citizens.

**EDUCATION CODE (EC)** — The body of law which regulates education in California. Additional regulations are contained in the California Administrative Code, Titles 5 and 8, the Government Code, and general statutes.

**EDUCATION FUND/FOUNDATION** — A tax-exempt organization established to raise funds and receive gifts and grants in support of a school district or individual schools.

**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA)** — The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1981). Chapter 1 of the Act is the former Title 1 program for educationally disadvantaged children. Chapter 2 consists of multiple programs consolidated into block grants to states and local districts.

**EMERGENCY PERMIT** — In California, a one-year permit issued to people entering the teaching profession who have not completed some of the legal requirements for a credential. Generally the intent is that the person will enroll in and complete an approved teacher preparation program. Emergency permit holders must have a college degree, pass the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST), and have some subject matter knowledge. The permit allows the person to work only in the hiring district.

**ENCROACHMENT** — The expenditure of school districts' general purpose funds for special purpose programs, such as Special Education or transportation. Encroachment occurs in most districts which provide services for handicapped children; other encroachment is caused by deficit factors or local decisions to allocate general-purpose funds to special purpose program.

**ENGLISH LEARNER** — Formerly known as 'Limited English Proficient' (LEP), this term refers to students who lack fluency in English and qualify for extra help.



**ENROLLMENT** — The filing of bills with the governor and of resolutions with the Secretary of State, following the final proofreading by the house of origin which determines, for example, that amendments recommended by the other house, or by Conference Committees, are properly inserted.

**ENROLLMENT v. ADA** — Enrollment is a count of students appearing on the class lists of every California school and district on a given day each October. For many funding purposes, districts must compute their average daily attendance (ADA), which is the average number of students in school over the course of the year. The number of pupils enrolled in the school is usually larger than the ADA.

**EQUALIZATION AID** — Funds allocated by the Legislature to raise districts with lower revenue limits toward the statewide average.

**EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION** — The U.S. Constitution states that no state shall 'deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.' This 'equal protection clause' has been used to challenge California's system of funding for public school students. For example, the Serrano v Priest court case charged that a school finance system based on local property taxes did not provide children or taxpayers with equal protection under the law and was therefore unconstitutional.

**EQUITY** — The belief that state governments have an obligation to equalize students' access to educational opportunities and life chances. During the 1970s and 1980s, many state courts found great disparities in base per pupil spending between high and low property-wealth districts. They mandated that these funding disparities be eradicated. In placing districts on a level playing field, the courts often invoked equal protection clauses in state constitutions.

**EDUCATION REVENUE AUGMENTATION FUND (ERAF)** — Legislative decision by which property taxes were shifted from cities, counties, and special districts in the early 1990s and distributed to K-14 education.

**EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS** — Any needs beyond the average. These can include needs for disabled or gifted students.

**EXCESS TAX REVENUE** — Tax revenues which are greater than a governmental entity's allowable Gann appropriations limitation. The Gann Amendment requires that these funds be returned to taxpayers by revised tax rates or altered fee schedules. Proposition 98 requires that a major portion of excess revenues be directed to public schools.

**EXIT CRITERIA** — The regulations which determine when a child may move from a special service, such as a bilingual program, to a regular classroom.

**EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL** — The amount of money spent on education by a school district or the state, divided by the number of students educated. For most official purposes, the number of students is determined by Average Daily Attendance.

**FAIR** — A fair assessment is one that is without bias, such as socioeconomic or ethnic, and reflects that a child has been given a chance to learn.

**FISCAL CRISIS AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAM (FCMAT)** — The state agency formed to monitor and assist financially troubled districts and county offices in California.

**FIRST PRINCIPLE APPORTIONMENT** — The statutory date (February 20) by which the State Department of Education must first calculate district and county funding entitlements.

**FISCAL COMMITTEE** — The standing committees in both houses which deal with measures containing appropriations. In the Senate, the fiscal committees are the Appropriations and Budget and Fiscal Review Committees; in the Assembly, it is the Ways and Means Committee.

**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT** — Any form of assessment used by an educator to evaluate students' knowledge and understanding of a particular content and then to adjust instructional practices accordingly toward improving student achievement in that area.

**FOUNDATION AMOUNT** — The tax revenues which count toward a school district's Gann limit. The district's other tax revenues are included in the state's limit.

**FREE – REDUCED PRICE MEALS** — A federal program to provide food – typically lunch and/or breakfast – for students from low-income families. The number of students participating in the program is increasingly being used as a way to measure the poverty level of a school or district population. The number of children in this program can affect schools; or districts' eligibility for grants or other funding aimed at helping lower income families.

**FREE RIDE** — A legislator who runs for an elected office while holding another elected office and is not up for reelection in the currently-held position and thus will not forfeit his/her current position regardless of the election outcome in the sought-after election is said to have a 'free ride'.

**GANN AMENDMENT** — An initiative passed in November 1979 adding Article XIII B to the California Constitution. It establishes limits on annual appropriations from the proceeds of taxes by the state, cities, counties, school districts and most special districts. Implementing legislation, SB 1352 (Marks), was passed in 1980.

**GANN SPENDING LIMIT** — A ceiling, or limit, on tax dollars that the state, cities, counties, school districts and special districts may appropriate. Based on 1978-79, subsequent years' limits have been adjusted for the change in the California Consumer Price Index or per capita personal income, whichever is smaller, and for change in the state's population.

**GENERAL FUND** — Accounting term used by the state and school districts to differentiate general revenues and expenditures from those earmarked for special purposes.

**GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (G.O. BONDS)** — Bonds for capital outlay, financed through taxes. Bond elections in a school district must be approved by a two-thirds vote, state measures by a majority vote.

**GENERAL PURPOSE FUNDING** — California school districts receive general purpose money based on a per pupil revenue limit. They have discretion to spend this money as they see fit for the day-to-day operations of schools, including everything from salaries to the electric bill.

**GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE)** — Gifted and Talented Education program, to provide educational services to children who are identified as exceptionally able or talented.

**GOLDEN STATE EXAMS** — Established in 1983, California's Golden State Exams are rigorous tests given to students in grades 7 – 12 in key academic subject areas. The tests include both multiple-choice and written-response questions. Science exams include laboratory tests. If students meet or surpass the three highest levels of achievement – high honors, honors, and recognition – they are recognized as GSE scholars and their achievement becomes part of their permanent transcript.

**GOVERNOR'S PERFORMANCE AWARD (GPA) PROGRAM** — One of the components of California's Public Schools Accountability Act (PSSA). This program that began Fall 2000 grants monetary and non-monetary awards to public schools in California that meet or exceed their Academic Performance Index (API) performance growth target each year.

**GRANDFATHER CLAUSE** — Exempts existing persons or activities from certain provisions of an act.

**HEALTHY START** — A state grant program in which schools work with community organizations to provide children and families with access to health and human services, often at school sites.

**HIGH EXPENDITURE DISTRICTS** — Districts whose revenue limit per child is greater than the state average for similar districts. Most high expenditure districts were formerly called 'high wealth' because their assessed value per ADA was significantly above the statewide average. Those more than 5% above do not receive their full revenue limit for additional pupils above their 1982-83 ADA.

**HIGH-STAKES TEST** — A test that results in some kind of consequence for those who score low, some kind of reward for those who score high, or both.

**IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION/UNDER-PERFORMING SCHOOLS PROGRAM (II/USP)** — A component of California’s Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA) designed to provide assistance and intervention for schools identified as Underperforming. Schools that meet improvement goals will be eligible for financial and non-monetary rewards; schools that fail to meet growth targets over time may be subject to district or state interventions.

**IMPACT AID** — A federal program which provides funds to districts which educate children whose families live or work on federal property, such as military bases.

**IMPLICIT PRICE DEFLATOR FOR GOVERNMENT GOODS AND SERVICES** — An economic index published by the U.S. Department of Commerce, which SB 813 requires to be used in calculating the cost-of-living adjustment for district revenue limits.

**INDIRECT COST RATE** — Rate used to charge a portion of the general expenses of operating a district to a specific program such as food service or adult education.

**INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN (IEP)** — A written agreement between a school district and parents or guardians of a child with disabilities tailoring an educational program to the child’s needs. An IEP is required for Special Education students.

**INFLATION FACTOR** — See Cost-of-Living Adjustment.

**INITIATIVE** — A method of direct legislation by a vote of the people.

**‘IN LIEU OF’ LANGUAGE** — Language which supersedes another statutory provision. Such language renders the former provision null and void and replaces it with the new provisions.

**INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (9-12 AND K-8)** — State funds for materials such as textbooks and workbooks.

**ITEM VETO** — Governor’s authority to reduce or eliminate items of appropriation while approving the rest of the bill.

**INTERIM REPORTS** — Reports to the state, required twice annually, about ongoing ability of school districts to meet their financial obligations.

**INTERVENTION PROGRAMS** — In general, programs that provide extra support and resources to help improve student or school performance. In California, under the state’s Public Schools Accountability Act (PSAA), schools that do not meet Academic Performance Index (API) growth targets within 12 months of implementation of an improvement plan are subject to local interventions such as the reassignment of school personnel, negotiation of site-specific amendments to collective bargaining agreements, or other changes deemed appropriate. Schools that do not meet growth targets or demonstrate ‘significant growth’ within 24 months of implementation will be subject to state actions.

**J-200, J-380** — Financial and program cost accounting reports submitted by districts and county offices to the California Department of Education. The information is used to monitor the fiscal condition of school districts.

**JOINT POWERS AGREEMENTS (JPAs)** — An agreement among school districts to share services or responsibilities. A joint powers board made up of representatives of the districts governs the JPA.

**JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICTS** — School districts with boundaries which cross county lines.

**LARGE-SCALE ASSESSMENTS** — Tests, usually standardized, that are administered to a large population, such as all students within a state. The Stanford-9 test, used in California, is an example of a large-scale assessment.

**LAW** — The rule of conduct determined by the people through their elected representatives or by direct vote.

**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE** — An individual, commonly called a lobbyist, who's retained to present the views of a group or organization to legislators and who is required by law to register with the Secretary of State's Office.

**LEP (LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT)** — LEP students are those who do not have the clearly developed English language skills (i.e., comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing) necessary to succeed in the school's regular instructional programs. Note: LEP includes non-English and limited-English proficient students.

**LEVELING UP** — Increasing the level of per pupil expenditure statewide towards that of the lower spending districts.

**LOBBY** — To attempt to influence legislation; to promote a particular organization and/or issue.

**LOTTERY** — Scratch tickets and lotto games which began in California in October 1985. The minimum of 34% of lottery revenues distributed to public schools and colleges must be used for 'education of pupils.' Lottery income adds about 2% to K-12 education funding annually.

**LOWER EXPENDITURE DISTRICTS** — Districts whose revenue limit per child was less than the state average for similar districts. Low expenditure districts were allowed a larger inflation adjustment to their revenue limits than were high expenditure districts. SB 813 increased low expenditure districts up to the statewide average revenue limit. Neither 'high' nor 'low' refers to the family income of district residents.

**MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS** — Fees charged to property owners and used to provide a service of benefit to all fee payers, such as the maintenance of public parks and recreation areas. School district governing boards may impose the fee without putting it on the ballot for local voters' approval.

**MAJORITY PARTY** — The political party in each house with the most elected members. Certain powerful leadership and staffing privileges are afforded the Majority Party in each house.

**MANDATED COSTS** — School district expenditures which occur as a result of federal or state law, court decisions, administrative regulations or initiative measures.

**MASTER PLAN FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION (MPSE)** — California categorical program for the education of all children with disabilities, enacted in 1980 and amended frequently since then.

**MEGA-ITEM** — The combination of over 40 state-funded categorical programs into one line item in the state budget.

**MELLO-ROOS** — A community facilities district, usually within a school district, established by a two-thirds vote to issue bonds and levy local taxes for school construction.

**MENTOR TEACHER** — A specially selected teacher who receives a stipend to work with new and experienced teachers on curriculum and instruction. The state provides some funding for this program.

**MIGRANT EDUCATION** — Special funds for districts with students who are children of migrant workers.

**MILLER-UNRUH** — A state categorical program which supports reading specialists.

**MINIMUM GUARANTEE** — An amount of money that must be appropriated annually to K-14 education according to Proposition 98.

**MINORITY PARTY** — The political party in each house with the fewest elected members.

**MULTIPLE MEASURES** — Relying on more than one indicator to measure a student's academic strengths and weaknesses. Measures can include grades, teacher comments, collected samples of a student's work, and standardized test scores. Similarly, multiple measures can be used to evaluate school and school district performance. These might include students' standardized test scores, graduation rates, and drop-out rates.

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRESS (NAEP)** — This is a national test that is given to specific grade levels in specific subjects every other year in which a small sample of students representative of the state are tested. NAEP test scores can be compared to national averages. Not all states participate in NAEP, though California does.

**NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION** — A certificate awarded by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, attesting that a teacher possesses the skills and knowledge of accomplished teaching and meets the National Board standards. To earn a certificate, the teacher must complete a rigorous two-part assessment.

**NATIONALLY NORMED ASSESSMENT** — A test that has been administered to a national control group that reflects the demographic profile of the target population, such as 4<sup>th</sup> graders, throughout the country. The scores of all subsequent test-takers are then compared against the scores of this control (or ‘norming’) group.

**NECESSARY SMALL SCHOOLS** — Elementary schools with less than 101 ADA or high schools with less than 301 ADA which are separately funded if the student population is sparse enough.

**NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT (NCLB) ACT** —

**NORM REFERENCED ASSESSMENT** — An assessment in which an individual or group’s performance is compared to a larger group. Usually the larger group is representative of the cross-section of all U.S. students.

**OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN STANDARDS** — The provision of resources, including teachers, materials, facilities, and instructional experiences, that enable students to acquire expected knowledge and skills.

**PARCEL TAX** — A special tax assessed on each parcel (non ad valorem) rather than being based on property value. Usually for a specific purpose tied to a district’s educational program, parcel taxes must be approved by a two-thirds vote.

**PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME** — Income before taxes as estimated by U.S. Department of Commerce.

**PERCENTILE RANKS** — Percentile ranks compare a given child, class, school, or district to a national norm. Students in the first percentile are outranked by everyone who took the test. Students in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile outrank everyone. Students at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile are at the average. Percentiles are ranks, not scores.

**PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT** — Also referred to as alternative or authentic assessment. A performance assessment requires students to generate a response to a question rather than choose it from a set of possible answers provided for them. Examples include essay questions, portfolios, and demonstrations.

**PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE** — Any incentive, monetary or other, used to encourage teachers, administrators, and other school staff to increase the academic achievement of their students.

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS** — This type of standard describes how well or at what level students should be expected to master the content standards. For example, while content standards may say that all eighth graders should learn Algebra I, performance standards would say what level of mastery of Algebra I is necessary for promotion to the next grade.

**PL 81-874** — The Federal Impact Aid program which provides funds to districts with children whose families live or work on federal property, such as military bases.

**PL 94-142** — Federal law which mandates a ‘free and appropriate’ education for all children with disabilities.

**PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT** — A student portfolio is a collection of various samples of that student’s work. It can include writing samples, examples of how the student solved mathematical problems, results of scientific experiments, etc. The evaluation of this work,

typically done by a classroom teacher, can be conducted systematically based on established content and performance standards.

**PRIOR YEAR'S TAXES** — Tax revenues that had been delinquent in a prior year and that are received in the current fiscal year. These revenues offset state aid in the current year in the revenue limit formula.

**PROCEEDS OF TAXES** — Defined in the Gann Amendment as the revenues from taxes, licensing fees, user charges and user fees (in excess of expenses). If the amount exceeds the states Gann limit, half must be rebated to taxpayers and half to K-14 schools. (See Gann Spending Limit.)

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** — Programs that allow staff to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to perform their jobs successfully.

**PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS** — Required examination of students' knowledge of basic skills according to standards set by local districts. Remedial help must be provided for those who fail to meet the standards; students must pass the tests to graduate. Different proficiency requirements apply to new teachers and aides. (See CBEST.)

**PROPOSITION 4 (1979)** — See Gann Amendment.

**PROPOSITION 13 (1978)** — An initiative amendment passed in June 1978, adding Article XIII A to the California Constitution. Tax rates on secured property are restricted to no more than 1% of 'full cash value.' Proposition 13 also defined assessed value and required a two-thirds vote to change existing or levy other new taxes.

**PROPOSITION 98 (1988)** — An initiative amendment passed in November 1988, and amended by Proposition 111 in 1990, entitled the Classroom Instructional Improvement and Accountability Act. Measure provides a constitutional guaranteed minimum school funding level from state revenues, a distribution of state funds above the Gann limit and a prudent state budget reserve and an annual report card for each public school in the state.

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PERS)** — Public Employees' Retirement System. State law requires that most classified employees, their district and the state contribute to this retirement fund.

**PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD (PERB)** — Public Employment Relations Board. Five persons appointed by the governor to regulate collective bargaining between school districts and employee organizations.

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACCOUNTABILITY (PSAA)** — Signed into law in 1999, this act outlines a comprehensive process for ranking schools based on specific criteria and improvement over time. When schools fall short of the expectations, the state may intervene – first with assistance and later with sanctions. Successful schools will be rewarded. The PSAA has three main components: the Academic Performance Index (API), the Intermediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP), and the Governor's Performance Award program (GPA).

**PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO AND AVERAGE CLASS SIZE** — The pupil-teacher ratio is computed by dividing the total student enrollment by the full-time equivalent teachers. The average class size, by contrast, is the number of students in classes divided by the number of classes. Since some teachers have special assignments outside regular classrooms or work part-time, the average class size is always larger than the pupil-teacher ratio.

**PUPIL WEIGHTING** — A method of distributing money for education according to the individual characteristics of each pupil. Weights or ratios are assigned for categories of pupil need or special costs; funds flow to districts according to their total number of pupil weights.

**RAW SCORE** — The number of questions answered correctly on a test, particularly a multiple-choice test. Because the test questions are not equally difficult, this information is of limited use.

**REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL (ROC/ROP)** — Regional Occupational Centers-Regional Occupational Programs. Established by a school district, group or districts or county offices of education, the centers provide training for entry-level jobs, job-related counseling and upgrading of skills for youths ages 16-18.

**REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (SECTION 504)** – See Civil Rights Act

**RESERVES** — Funds set aside in a school district budget to provide for future expenditures, to offset future losses, for working capital, or for other purposes.

**RETENTION** — The act of policy of holding students back from advancing to the next grade level if they do not meet established performance standards.

**REVENUE LIMIT** — The specific amount of money a school district can collect annually for its general education program from local taxes and state aid. Annual increases are specified in the law, but the Legislature must appropriate adequate money. Revenue limits were established by SB 90 (1972). Categorical aid is granted in addition to revenue limit income.

**REVENUES PER PUPIL** — The total amount of revenues from all sources received by a school district or state, divided by the number of students as determined, most often, by Average Daily Attendance (DA). Unlike expenditures per pupil, this formula is based on income per pupil rather than on what is spent per pupil.

**SAMPLING** — In education research, administering a test to and analyzing the test results of a set of students who, as a group, represent the characteristics of the entire student population. Based on their analysis of the data of the representative sample, researchers, educators, and policy makers can infer important trends in the academic progress of an individual or group of students.

**SAT – SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST** — The SAT I Reasoning Test, formerly called the Scholastic Aptitude Test, is administered by the national College Board and widely used throughout the country as a college entrance examination. National and state averages of SAT I scores are published annually. In California, the University of California system uses an index of SAT I and SAT II (math and English) test scores plus student grade point average for admission to its campuses.

**SCALED SCORE** — An adjustment of raw scores that differentiates among test items, for example, giving more weight to hard questions and less weight to easy questions across all grade levels. Unlike other types of scores, the scaled score has the same meaning in terms of achievement for each grade, making it the best indicator of a student's growth from one year to the next.

**SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (SARC)** — An annual report on specified aspects of a school's operation. Required as part of Proposition 98.

**SCHOOL BOARDS** — By law, every school district in California is governed by a locally elected school board. The number of board members – generally between three and seven – relates to the size of the district. Together with the school district administration, the governing board makes many fiscal, personnel, instructional, and student-related policy decisions. The board also provides direction for the district and selects, hires and evaluates the district superintendent.

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS** — There are three types of school districts: elementary, high school and unified. An elementary district is generally kindergarten through eighth grade (K-8); high school is generally grades 9 through 12; unified is kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade (K-12).

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS (SIP)** — Money granted by the state to qualifying K-12 schools to carry out a plan developed by the school site council for improvement of the school's program.

**SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL** — Parents, students, teachers and other staff selected by their peers to prepare a school improvement plan and to assist in seeing that the planned activities are carried out and evaluated.

**SCOPE OF BARGAINING** — The range of subjects negotiated between school districts and employee organizations during the collective bargaining process. In California, scope includes matters relating to wages, hours and working conditions; PERB is responsible for interpreting disputes about scope.

**SECOND PRINCIPLE APPORTIONMENT** — The second statutory date (June 25) by which the Department of education must recalculate district and county funding entitlements.

**SECTION 504** — See Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in Civil Rights Act.

**SECURED ROLE** — The part of a school district's assessed value derived from stationary property, i.e., land and buildings.

**SECURED PROPERTY** — Property which cannot be moved, such as homes and factories.

**SENATE** — The Upper House of the California Legislature, consisting of 40 members elected from districts apportioned on the basis of population, one-half of whom are elected or re-elected every two years for four-year terms.

**SENATE BILLS** — Major school finance laws which originated in the Senate passed by the California Legislature since 1972. See also Proposition(s) and Assembly Bill(s).

**SB 90 (1972)** instituted revenue limits.

**SB 90 (1977)** allowed school districts to submit claims to the state for reimbursement for increased costs resulting from state mandates or executive orders, following the guidelines adopted by the State Board of Control.

**SB 154 (1978)** allocated property taxes to cities, counties and schools after Proposition 13.

**SB 813 (1983)** major 'reform' legislation, covers curriculum, graduation requirements, testing, mentor teachers, teacher evaluation, student discipline, incentive programs, funding, various studies and the preparation of statewide curriculum standards.

**SB 98 (1989)** defined implementation along with AB 198 (1989) of Proposition 98 (1988), the Classroom Instructional Improvement and Accountability Act.

**SENIORITY** — A statutory system for protecting the job security of employees who have the longest periods of service in a district. With few exceptions, the seniority list is used to determine which employees will be the first to be laid off or rehired.

**SERRANO V. PRIEST** — The California Supreme Court decision which declared the system of financing schools unconstitutional because it violated the Equal Protection clause of the state's Constitution. The Court said that by 1980 the relative effort (tax rate) required of taxpayers for local schools must be nearly the same throughout the state and that differences in annual per pupil expenditures due to local wealth must be less than \$100. The impact of Proposition 13 settled the taxpayer equity provision. In 1983 a court review determined that sufficient compliance in reducing expenditure disparities had been achieved; subsequent appeals have not succeeded. In 1989-90 additional state funding was provided to school districts identified as 'low wealth' districts.

**SESSION** — The period during which the Legislature meets: Regular - the biennial session at which all classes of legislation may be considered; Extraordinary - a special session called by the governor and limited to matters specified by him/her; Daily - each day's meeting; Joint - meeting of the two houses.

**SHORTFALL** — An insufficient allocation of money, requiring an additional appropriation or resulting in a deficit.

**SIZE OF DISTRICTS** — A 'small' district is fewer than 101 students, elementary; 301 students, high school; and 1,501 students, unified.

**SKELETON BILL** — A measure introduced in outline form, with the substantive elements amended in at a future date.



**SLIPPAGE** — Savings in state school fund appropriations because of unexpected revenues raised when the assessed value of property grows at a faster rate than anticipated, allowing larger than projected amounts of local property taxes to be collected.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION** — Programs to identify and meet the educational needs of children with emotional, learning, or physical disabilities. Federal law PL 94-142 requires that all children with disabilities be provided a free and appropriate education from infancy until 21 years of age.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLANNING AREAS (SELPA)** — Regional group for purposes of administering Special Education services effectively and efficiently. Districts are organized into SELPAs; some are countywide, some are a single large district or part of a district, and some combine several smaller district.

**SPECIAL RESERVE** — Money set aside by a school district for special purposes or projects, such as a capital outlay.

**SPLIT ROLL** — A system for taxing business and industrial property at a different rate from individual homeowners.

**SPONSOR** — The person who or group having an idea and proposing it to a Legislative member for introduction in the form of a bill.

**SPOT BILL** — See ‘Skeleton Bill’.

**SQUEEZE** — The restriction on annual inflation increases to the revenue limits based on the relative wealth of districts.

**STANDARDS** — A degree of level of achievement. The ‘standards movement’ began as an informal effort grown out of a concern that American students were not learning enough and that American schools did not have a rigorous curriculum. The U.S. Congress adopted this concept more formally with its 1994 reauthorization of the Federal Title I program.

**STANDARDS BASED REFORM** — A recent shift in education policy and school reform toward reaching consensus on and establishing standards for what students need to know and be able to do at each grade or developmental level.

**STANFORD-9 TEST** — This test, also called the SAT-9, is officially known as the ‘Stanford Achievement Test, Ninth Edition Form T’ and is published by Harcourt Brace Educational Measurement. It is a standardized, nationally normed, multiple-choice test that measures basic skills in math, reading English, and other areas. The test was adopted by California in 1997 for a five-year period as its statewide student performance test in grades 2-11 and is currently the sole indicator used in California’s Academic Performance Index (API).

**STATE ALLOCATION BOARD (SAB)** — A regulatory agency which controls most state-aided capital outlay and deferred maintenance projects and distributes funds for them.

**STATE SCHOOL FUND** — Each year the state appropriates money to this fund, which is then used to make state aid payments to school districts. Section A of the State School Fund is for K-12 education and Section B is for community college education.

**STATE TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS)** — State Teachers’ Retirement System. State law requires all certificated employees, school districts and the state to contribute to this retirement fund.

**STATUTES** — Compilation of all enacted bills, chaptered by the Secretary of State in the order in which they became law and published in book form by the State Printer.

**SUBVENTIONS** — Provision of assistance or financial support, usually from higher governmental units to local governments or school districts, for example, to compensate for loss of funds due to tax exemptions.

**SUNSET** — The termination of the regulations, but not necessarily the funding, for a categorical program. A schedule for the Legislature to consider the sunset of most state programs is in current law.

**SUSPENSE FILE** — A holding place for bills which carry appropriations over a specified dollar amount, the Suspense File is a function of the fiscal committees in both houses. Bills are generally held on the Suspense File before the adoption of the Budget Bill and just before the summer recess.

**SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUES** — Unrestricted state funding that formerly came from the Supplemental Grants program.

**SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS – CATEGORICAL PROGRAMS** — Restricted state funding that formerly came from the Supplemental Grants program.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ROLL** — An additional property tax assessment required by local county auditors due to a revision in the AB 8 (1979) law relative to tax collections.

**TEACHER PEER ASSISTANCE AND REVIEW PROGRAM (PAR)** — This law, enacted in 1999, encourages designated consulting teachers to assist as well as be involved in the performance evaluation of their peers. Each district develops implementation details of the program through their collective bargaining process. The local program is overseen by a joint teach-administrator peer review panel, which selects consulting teachers for the program and makes recommendations to the school board about participants in the program.

**TENURE** — A system of due process and employment guarantee for teachers. After serving a two-year probation period, teachers are assured continued employment in the school district unless very carefully defined procedures for dismissal or layoff are successfully followed.

**TEST 1, 2, or 3** — Tests, based on the level of state revenues, which are used to determine the financial allocation to K-12 schools and community colleges.

**TIDELANDS OIL REVENUES** — Money from oil on state-owned lands. When available, some of the revenues are appropriated for K-12 capital outlay needs.

**TITLE 1, MIGRANT EDUCATION** — Funds for districts with students who are children of migrant workers.

**TITLE 1, NEGLECTED OR DELINQUENT (N&D)** — A federal program targeted on the needs of children who have been found by a court to be neglected or delinquent and are housed in a 24-hour care residential facility.

**TITLE 1, TITLE VI** — Funds from the federal Educational Consolidation and Improvement Act. Title I is for educationally disadvantaged children; Title VI is for innovative education program strategies. (These programs were formerly called Chapter 1 and Chapter 2.)

**TOTAL v. FUNDED** — School finance formulas allow school districts to use the greater of current or prior year ADA in order to partially cushion the impact of declining enrollments. Funded ADA is the number used for allocating state aid under this provision of law. Total ADA, in contrast, reflects the number of actual ADA for the current year.

**TUITION TAX CREDITS** — A reduction in state or federal income tax to offset a specified amount of money for private education tuition.

**TWO-YEAR BILL** — A bill which did not pass out of its first Policy Committee before the constitutional deadline and which will be carried over and acted upon when the Legislature reconvenes after the interim recess. If the bill does not pass its Policy Committee by the second year deadline, it is considered Dead.

**TYPES OF DISTRICTS** — California has three types of school districts - elementary (generally kindergarten through 8th grade), high school (generally grades 9 through 12), or unified (kindergarten through 12th grade).

**UNDUPLICATED COUNT** — The number of pupils receiving special education or special services under the Master Plan for Special Education on the census dates of December 1 and April 1. Even though a pupil may receive multiple services, each pupil is counted only once in the unduplicated count.

**UNIFICATION** — Joining together of all or part of an elementary school district (K-8) and high school district (9-12) to form a new unified school district (K-12) with a single governing board.

**UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** — A school district serving students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

**UNIONIZATION** — Joining together of two or more elementary or high school districts to form a single elementary or high school district.

**UNSECURED PROPERTY** — Moveable property such as boats and airplanes. This property is taxed at the previous year's secured property tax rate.

**URBAN IMPACT/MEADE AID** — State aid to large, metropolitan districts and to qualifying high school and their feeder elementary districts. The money carries no restrictions on its use.

**URGENCY CLAUSE** — A bill containing an urgency clause takes effect immediately upon the governor's signature. A vote on the urgency clause must precede a vote on the bill and both votes require a two-thirds vote for passage.

**VALID** — Tests can have content validity, criterion validity, construct validity, consequential validity, and face validity. A test has content validity if it measures what it says it is measuring. Criterion validity, also called predictive validity, occurs if a test predicts something that the test administrators are interested in predicting. Construct validity is used to measure psychological constructs such as intelligence, anxiety or self-esteem. If a test measures these constructs as it says it is measuring them, it has construct validity. Consequential validity refers to the consequences of a test or inferences made from the test. A test has face validity if it appears appropriate or relevant to the test taker. If a test does not have face validity, the test is compromised and that can affect other kinds of validity as well.

**VALUE-ADDED SYSTEMS OF ACCOUNTABILITY** — These models attempt to measure the value added by an individual teacher or school to students' performance over time. Usually this is done through data analysis comparing a student's test scores to the same student's scores from the previous year. The improvement in the score over what would normally be expected is considered to be the value added by the school or teacher.

**VARIABLE COSTS** — Expenses which differ from district to district due to geographical, economic or social conditions, for example, the cost of snow plows in mountainous areas or of high insurance rates in urban areas.

**VETO** — An action of a governor in disapproval of a measure; may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses.

**VOLUNTARY NATIONAL TEST (VNT)** — The Voluntary National Test is intended to provide a consistent measure of how individual students are performing, across states and school systems, against rigorous standards based on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

**VOUCHERS** — Coupons issued by a state to individual children for admission to school and redeemed by those schools for cash. A voucher system could include public as well as private school students.

**WAIVERS** — Permission from the State Board of Education to set aside the requirements of an Education Code provision upon the request of a school district.

**YEAR-ROUND SCHOOLS** — A schedule of classes throughout the calendar year to fully utilize school facilities. Students attend about three-quarters of the time, in various schedules determined by each district.



*The Acronyms Section was compiled using some of the most common acronyms associated with California public education.*

<b>AASA</b>	American Association of School Administrators
<b>ABE</b>	Adult Basic Education
<b>ACE</b>	Assessments in Career Education
<b>ACSA</b>	Association of California School Administrators
<b>ACT</b>	American College Test
<b>ADA</b>	Americans With Disabilities Act
<b>ADA</b>	Average Daily Attendance
<b>AERA</b>	American Educational Research Association
<b>AF</b>	Air Force
<b>AFDC</b>	Aid to Families With Dependent Children
<b>AFSCME</b>	American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
<b>AFT</b>	American Federation of Teachers
<b>AH</b>	Aurally Handicapped
<b>AP</b>	Advanced Placement
<b>APE</b>	Adapted Physical Education
<b>API</b>	Academic Performance Index
<b>ARC</b>	American River College
<b>ASCD</b>	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
<b>AVID</b>	Advancement Via Individual Determination
<b>BASRC</b>	Bay Area School Reform Collaborative
<b>BCC</b>	Budget Code Change
<b>BCLAD</b>	Bilingual Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development
<b>BTSA</b>	Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment
<b>CABE</b>	California Association for Bilingual Education
<b>CAHSEE</b>	California High School Exit Exam
<b>CAL</b>	California Athletic Association
<b>CALPADS</b>	California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System
<b>CAL-SAFE</b>	California School-Age Families Education
<b>CALSSD</b>	California Association Suburban School Districts

<b>CALTIDES</b>	California Longitudinal Teacher Integrated Data Education System
<b>CASBO</b>	California Association of School Business Officials
<b>CASH</b>	Coalition for Adequate School Housing
<b>CBE</b>	Council for Basic Education
<b>CBEDS</b>	California Based Educational Data Systems
<b>CBEE</b>	California Business for Education Excellence
<b>CBEST</b>	California Basic Educational Skills Test
<b>CBO</b>	Chief Business Officer
<b>CC</b>	Children's Center
<b>CCR</b>	California Code of Regulations
<b>CCR</b>	Coordinated Compliance Review
<b>CCSSO</b>	Council of Chief State School Officers
<b>CDE</b>	California Department of Education
<b>CDR</b>	Contract Daily Rate
<b>CELDT</b>	California English Language Development Test
<b>CFIER</b>	California Foundation for Improving Employer-Employee Relations
<b>CFO</b>	Chief Fiscal Officer
<b>CFT</b>	California Federation of Teachers
<b>CFTL</b>	Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning
<b>CGCS</b>	Council of the Great City Schools
<b>CH</b>	Communicatively Handicapped
<b>CH/SLH</b>	Communicatively/Speech, Language, Hearing Handicapped
<b>CHESS</b>	Community Health Education and Support System
<b>CHHS</b>	Community, Health and Human Services
<b>CHPS</b>	Collaborative for High Performance Schools
<b>CHR</b>	Contract Hourly Rate
<b>CHSPE</b>	California High School Proficiency Exam
<b>CIF</b>	California Institute for School Improvement
<b>CLAD</b>	Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development
<b>CLAS</b>	California Learning Assessment System
<b>C-LERN</b>	California Local Education Reform Network
<b>CLMS</b>	California League of Middle Schools
<b>CLRE</b>	Citizenship and Law Related Education
<b>COBRA</b>	Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
<b>COLA</b>	Cost-of-Living Allowance
<b>CPEE</b>	Community Partners for Educational Excellence
<b>CPI</b>	Consumer Price Index
<b>CPM</b>	Categorical Program Monitoring

<b>CPO</b>	Chief Personnel Officer
<b>CPRE</b>	Consortium for Policy Research in Education
<b>CPS</b>	Child Protective Services
<b>CRESPAR</b>	Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk
<b>CRESST</b>	National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing
<b>CSBA</b>	California School Boards Association
<b>CSEA</b>	California School Employees Association
<b>CSEA</b>	California State Employees Association
<b>CSF</b>	California Scholarship Federation
<b>CSR</b>	Comprehensive School Reform
<b>CSR</b>	Class-Size Reduction
<b>CST</b>	California Standards Test
<b>CSTP</b>	California Standards for the Teaching Profession
<b>CSU</b>	California State University
<b>CSUS</b>	California State University, Sacramento
<b>CTA</b>	California Teachers Association
<b>CTBS</b>	California Test of Basic Skills
<b>CTC</b>	California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
<b>CVC</b>	Capital Valley Conference
<b>CWA</b>	Child Welfare and Attendance
<b>D/HH</b>	Deaf/Hard of Hearing
<b>DHS</b>	Department of Human Services
<b>DIS</b>	Designated Instructional Services
<b>DOF</b>	California Department of Finance
<b>EAP</b>	Employee Assistance Program
<b>EC</b>	Education Code
<b>ECE</b>	Early Childhood Education
<b>ECS</b>	Employee Compensation Services
<b>ECS</b>	Education Commission of the States
<b>EER</b>	Employee/Employer Relations
<b>EIA</b>	Economic Impact Aid
<b>EL</b>	English Learner (EL replaces ELL and LEP)
<b>ELA</b>	English Language Acquisition
<b>ELD</b>	English Language Development
<b>ELL</b>	English Language Learners (ELL replaced by EL)
<b>ELS</b>	English Language Support
<b>EO</b>	English Only

<b>EOY</b>	End of Year
<b>EPSDT</b>	Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program
<b>ERIP</b>	Early Retirement Incentive Program
<b>ESEA</b>	Elementary and Secondary Education Act
<b>ESL</b>	English as a Second Language
<b>ETS</b>	Educational Testing Service
<b>FACE</b>	Family and Consumer Education
<b>FBLA</b>	Future Business Leaders of America
<b>FEP</b>	Fluent English Proficient
<b>FERPA</b>	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
<b>FMLA</b>	Family Medical Leave Act
<b>FST II</b>	Fiscal Services Technician II
<b>FTE</b>	Full-Time Equivalent
<b>GATE</b>	Gifted and Talented Education
<b>GED</b>	General Education Diploma
<b>GO</b>	General Obligation Bond
<b>GPA</b>	Governor's Performance Award Program
<b>GSE</b>	Golden State Exam
<b>HA</b>	High Achiever
<b>HEW</b>	Federal Department of Health, Education & Welfare
<b>HIGH</b>	Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
<b>HOUSSE</b>	High Objective Uniform State Standard Evaluation
<b>HPSGP</b>	High Priority Schools Grant Program
<b>HQT</b>	Highly Qualified Teacher
<b>HSC</b>	High School Council
<b>HSEE</b>	High School Exit Exam
<b>IA</b>	Industrial Arts
<b>IASA</b>	Improving America's Schools Act
<b>IB</b>	International Baccalaureate
<b>IDEA</b>	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
<b>IEP</b>	Individualized Education Program
<b>II/USP</b>	Intermediate Intervention/Under-Performing Schools Program
<b>ILS</b>	Independent Living Skills
<b>IMC</b>	Instructional Media Center
<b>ISSET</b>	Information Services and Educational Technology
<b>JPA</b>	Joint Power Authority
<b>JROTC</b>	Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corp
<b>JTPA</b>	Job Training Partnership Act

<b>K-12</b>	Grades Kindergarten Through Grade 12
<b>K-14</b>	Grades Kindergarten Through Grade 14
<b>K-8</b>	Grades Kindergarten Through Grade 8
<b>LAO</b>	Office of the Legislative Analyst
<b>LDS</b>	Language Development Specialist
<b>LEA</b>	Local Educational Agency
<b>LEP</b>	Limited English Proficiency
<b>LH</b>	Learning Handicapped
<b>LOA</b>	Leave of Absence
<b>LOA</b>	Letter of Agreement
<b>LTA</b>	Limited-Term Assignment
<b>LTT</b>	Long-Term Temporary
<b>M&amp;O</b>	Maintenance and Operations
<b>MC</b>	Marine Corps
<b>MESA</b>	Math, Engineering and Science Achievement
<b>MIDDLE</b>	Grades 7 and 8
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MPSE</b>	Master Plan for Special Education (California)
<b>MS</b>	Multiple Subjects
<b>MSC</b>	Middle School Council
<b>NABE</b>	National Association for Bilingual Education
<b>NAEP</b>	National Assessment for Education Progress
<b>NASBE</b>	National Association of State Boards of Education
<b>NASSP</b>	National Association of Secondary School Principals
<b>NBPTS</b>	National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
<b>NCADD</b>	National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence
<b>NCES</b>	National Center for Education Statistics
<b>NCLB</b>	No Child Left Behind
<b>NEA</b>	National Education Association
<b>NEGP</b>	National Educational Goals Panel
<b>NGA</b>	National Governors Association
<b>NPR</b>	National Percentile Rank
<b>NPS</b>	Non-Public Non-Sectarian School
<b>NSBA</b>	National School Boards Association
<b>NSLP</b>	National School Lunch Program
<b>OBEMLA</b>	Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs
<b>OCR</b>	Office of Civil Rights
<b>OT III</b>	Office Technician III



<b>OYNRE</b>	One-Year Non-Renewable Emergency (Credential)
<b>PAR</b>	Teacher Peer Assistance and Review Program
<b>PERB</b>	Public Employment Relations Board
<b>PERM</b>	Permanent
<b>PERS</b>	Public Employees Retirement System
<b>PH</b>	Physically Handicapped
<b>PH/OH</b>	Physically/Orthopedically Handicapped
<b>PH/VH</b>	Physically/Visually Handicapped
<b>PI</b>	Program Improvement
<b>PPP</b>	Parent Participation Preschool
<b>PPS</b>	Pupil Personnel Services
<b>PR</b>	Position Requisition
<b>PRIMARY</b>	Grades 1, 2, and 3
<b>PROB</b>	Probationary
<b>PSAA</b>	Public Schools Accountability Act
<b>PTA</b>	Parent Teacher Association
<b>PTSA</b>	Parent Teacher Student Association
<b>QEIA</b>	Quality Education Investment Act
<b>QSCB</b>	Qualified School Construction Bonds
<b>R&amp;E</b>	Research and Evaluation
<b>RFP</b>	Request for Proposal
<b>ROC</b>	Regional Occupational Center
<b>ROP</b>	Regional Occupational Program
<b>ROTC</b>	Reserve Officer Training Corporation
<b>RR</b>	Return Rights
<b>RSP</b>	Resource Specialist Program
<b>SAB</b>	State Allocation Board
<b>SABE/2</b>	Spanish Assessment of Basic Education, Second Edition
<b>SAIT</b>	School Assistance and Intervention Team
<b>SARB</b>	Student Attendance Review Board
<b>SARC</b>	School Accountability Report Card
<b>SAT</b>	Scholastic Aptitude Test
<b>SAT</b>	Student Awareness System
<b>SAT/9</b>	Stanford Achievement Test, 9 <sup>th</sup> Edition
<b>SBE</b>	California State Board of Education
<b>SBM</b>	Site-Based Management
<b>SBMT</b>	Site-Based Management Team
<b>SCISS</b>	Curriculum Standards, Instructional and Student Services Committee

<b>SCOE</b>	Sacramento County Office of Education
<b>SCTA</b>	Sacramento City Teachers Association
<b>SCUSD</b>	Sacramento City Unified School District
<b>SDAIE</b>	Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English
<b>SDC</b>	Special Day Class
<b>SDE</b>	State Department of Education
<b>SED</b>	Severely Emotionally Disturbed
<b>SEIU</b>	Service Employees International Union
<b>SELPA</b>	Special Education Local Plan Area
<b>SH</b>	Severely/Substantially Handicapped
<b>SIA</b>	School Improvement Plan
<b>SS</b>	Single Subjects
<b>SSID</b>	Statewide Student Identifier
<b>STAR</b>	Standardized Testing and Reporting Program
<b>STRS</b>	State Teachers Retirement System
<b>STT</b>	Short-Term Temporary
<b>SYETP</b>	Summer Youth Employment Training Program
<b>TAP</b>	Table of Authorized Positions
<b>TC</b>	Temporary Contract
<b>TESOL</b>	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
<b>TIMSS</b>	Third International Mathematics and Science Study
<b>TSA</b>	Teacher on Special Assignment
<b>TTPS</b>	Targeted Truancy Prevention and Public Safety
<b>TUPE</b>	Tobacco Use Prevention Education
<b>UC</b>	University of California
<b>UCB</b>	University of California, Berkeley
<b>UCD</b>	University of California, Davis
<b>UCLA</b>	University of California, Los Angeles
<b>UCP</b>	Uniform Complaint Procedure
<b>UPE</b>	United Professional Educators
<b>USC</b>	University of Southern California
<b>VAPAC</b>	Visual and Performing Arts Center
<b>VH</b>	Visually Handicapped
<b>VIP</b>	Voluntary Integration Program
<b>VNT</b>	Voluntary National Test
<b>VR</b>	Vacancy Requisition
<b>WASC</b>	Western Association School Committee
<b>WEAVE</b>	Women Escaping a Violent Environment