



Booklet of Acronyms

This glossary has been created to assist parents/guardians by providing a better understanding of the terminology associated with current educational practices, Stafford Township School District, No Child Left Behind and New Jersey State Standards. We hope you find this information useful.

Additional information can be obtained at the following websites: New Jersey Department of Education:

www.state.nj.us/education

US Department of Education: www.ed.gov

504 Plan		Students who are eligible for accommodations or modifications under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 may not be classified as special education, but have an impairment of a major life function such as performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, etc. Any accommodations or modifications for Section 504 eligible students must be specified in the student's accommodation plan and must be consistent with the instruction and assessment procedures in the classroom.
AASA	American Association of School Administrators	A professional organization for educational leaders in the United States and throughout the world. AASA members range from chief executive officers, superintendents and senior level school administrators to cabinet members, professors and aspiring school system leaders.
Accountability System		The academic standards that the State sets for what every child should know and learn. Student academic achievement is measured annually for every child and the results are reported to the public.
ACE	Afterschool Curriculum Enrichment	Created to offer enrichment activities to recommended students in specific content areas. Low teacher to student ratio is a priority, therefore promoting more individualized instruction. Students are invited to participate based on multiple criteria including classroom performance, standardized test results and teacher recommendations in at least one of the eight multiple intelligences.
Admin Meeting		Monthly meeting of all administrators called by the assistant superintendent.
AESOP	Automated Educational Substitute Operator Program	Automated 24-hour service that streamlines the process of recording absences and insuring substitute placements.
AIE	Art in Education	A discretionary grant that supports visual and performing arts. An "artist" works directly with district staff and students to offer "artistic" enrichment.
Alternative Assessment		Any type of assessment in which students create a response to a question or task and a rubric is utilized to evaluate progress.
AMAO	Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives	Progress reports for English language proficiency used to assess our ESL program.
AMO	Annual Measurable Objective	Annual measurable objectives are benchmarks each school must meet to make AYP each year.
APA	Alternate Proficiency Assessment	A portfolio assessment designed to measure progress toward achieving New Jersey's state educational standards for those students with severe cognitive disabilities who are unable to participate in the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) or the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA).
APP	Administrative Performance Plan	An evaluation tool for all administrators that encompasses both a yearly evaluation and an individual improvement plan.
Application of Learning		Report cards for grades 3-6 contain an Application of Learning grade, which indicates if a child is working on, above or below grade level and with or without assistance.

AppliTrack		System used to post openings and track applications.
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act	One time grant offered through the federal government to help stimulate the economy.
ASAP	After School Assistance Program	Program for students needing extra assistance.
ASCD	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development	A membership organization that develops programs, products and services to enhance the way educators learn, teach, and lead.
ASG	Admin Study Group	All district administrators meeting bi-weekly to discuss educational and staff needs, issues of concern throughout the district, staff evaluation processes and staying abreast of current trends in research.
ASI	Administrative Summer Institute	All district administrators meet over a three-day period in the summer to review procedures to develop their admin performance plan and prepare for the upcoming school year.
Assessment		System used to identify student progress or a method to measure what students are learning. A test is one kind of assessment used by schools. Under NCLB, mandated assessment as tests that are aligned with academic standards. Beginning in 2005-2006, assessments must be administered every year in grades 3 through 8 in language arts and mathematics. Beginning in 2007-2008, science achievement will also be assessed.
AYP	Adequate Yearly Progress	The minimum level of improvement that school districts and schools must achieve each year as determined under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.
BAC	Building Advisory Committee	Building staff work directly with school administrators to resolve issues.
BD	Behavioral Disability	Students classified with a behavioral disability.
Biz Town		Program that teaches fifth grade students about Commerce, both personal and business and supports financial literacy.
BP/SS	Best Practices/Star Schools	Awards given each year recognizing outstanding classroom practices and schools. Best Practices recognizes successful practices in 20 different categories that address the educational needs of students and help them achieve New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards. Star Schools identifies New Jersey schools that have a particular model with objectives that help students meet the state's academic and cross content workplace readiness standards. In addition, the school's faculty is involved in professional development activities that contribute to exemplary teaching practices. Active involvement of parents, business and the community is a hallmark of Star Schools.
BPAC	Building Parent Advisory Committee	Parents/guardians who volunteer to work with school personnel to improve the total school program. A home/school partnership whose purpose is to improve communication and to identify areas for improvement. They meet regularly to discuss building level issues.
BTSN/FF	Back to School Night/Fall Forward	An evening that is put aside early in the school year where parents/guardians can visit their child's classroom and get an overview of the curriculum, etc.

CCCS	Core Curriculum Content Standards	<p>First adopted by the State Board of Education in 1996 and revised and readopted by the Board in October 2004, the standards are reviewed and revised every five years. They articulate the common expectations for student achievement throughout the 13 years of public education and include the following nine areas:</p> <p>Standard 1: Visual and Performing Arts Standard 2: Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Standard 3: Language Arts Literacy Standard 4: Mathematics Standard 5: Science Standard 6: Social Studies Standard 7: World Languages Standard 8: Technological Literacy Standard 9: Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills</p>
CCR	Central Contractor Registration	A centralized system for notification regarding entitlement grant information.
Celebrity Waiter Dinner/Dance		Fundraiser through the Stafford Township Education Foundation to benefit the Innovative Grant Awards, in which teachers can apply for and receive funds for particular projects within their classroom.
CENS	Community Email Notification System	A service provided by Stafford Township School District to keep the community informed about the district as well as local organizations and events. Registered users can choose the types of information received. To register, click on the CENS logo on the home page of this website.
CEP	Comprehensive Equity Plan	As Identified in Code 6A:7 A comprehensive plan developed by the Board of Education to address, identify and correct discriminatory and inequitable policies, programs, practices and conditions within or affecting the public schools.
Children's Progress		A norm-offered assessment pre-K to third grade computer-based assessment program in language arts and math.
CIACC	County Inter-Agency Coordinating Council	The CIACC shall assess children, youth and young adult systems needs for the purposes of making recommendations regarding service and resource development priorities (DYFS).
Citizen		<i>The Citizen</i> is the district's student-authored, 20-page newspaper that is delivered to Stafford residents three times per year. It provides the community with information about the district by featuring articles about the schools, written by students.
Consortium		A collection or group of districts working together for a common goal.
Consortium Lending Library		Library/resources funded through Title III.
CPI	Crisis Prevention Institute	Training for the effective management to prevent student disruptive and/or assaultive behavior.
CST	Child Study Team	This team consists of a school psychologist, a learning disabilities teacher/consultant, and school social worker who are employees of the school district responsible for conducting evaluations to determine eligibility for special education and related services for students with disabilities.
Curriculum Mapping		Documentation and discussion of what is taught at each grade level to ensure consistency and prevent overlaps.
Cycle I		Preliminary report for NJASK scores.
Cycle II		Report that includes NJASK rescores and factors out students that have been in the district for less than one year.
DAC	District Advisory Committee	A committee consisting of staff from each school that meets with administration to discuss and review building and district specific areas of concern. Items being brought to DAC meetings by staff should first be reviewed with an attempt to resolve at BAC meetings.
DARE	Drug Abuse Resistance Education	A law enforcement-delivered curriculum in drug and violence prevention education.
DFG	District Factor Grouping	This is a system that provides a means of ranking schools by their socioeconomic status (SES). The grouping designation is based on information available from the census and includes the following: percent in community with

		no high school diploma; percent with some college; occupations; income; unemployment; and poverty. There are eight groupings starting with A which designates the lowest socioeconomic level and includes B, CD, DE, FG, GH, I, and J. These groupings allow comparison of districts with similar profiles for purposes of state aid and assessment information.
DIBELS		Assesses the five areas in early literacy identified by the National Reading Panel: Phonemic Awareness, Alphabetic principles fluency, vocabulary, comprehension.
Differentiation		Identifying the specific needs of the students and adjusting instruction to meet those needs.
DINI	District in Need of Improvement	The designation used when an <u>entire</u> district does not meet the requirements for making Adequate Yearly Progress for two consecutive years.
Disaggregated Data		Disaggregate means to separate a whole into its parts. In education, this term means that test results are sorted into groups of students who are economically disadvantaged, from racial and ethnic minority groups, have disabilities, or have limited English fluency.
Discretionary Grants		Competitive grants that the district can apply for to gain additional funding for programs and initiatives.
District Roundtable	DR	Bi-monthly meeting of all administrators called by the superintendent.
DPAC	District Parent Advisory Committee	A home/school partnership whose purpose is to improve communication and to identify areas for improvement. Parents/guardians and administrators meet regularly to discuss district wide planning and improvement.
DPR	District Performance Review	Indicators under NJQSAC that are will be used to evaluate conditions and performance in the district over the preceding three year period.
DRA	Diagnostic Reading Assessment	The diagnostic reading assessment is an informal reading inventory used to measure students' skills in each of the five components of reading.
E of C	Evening of Celebration	A district wide program honoring those staff members who continue to work diligently, making it seem effortless, to ensure that all students who enter our educational community have a successful and rewarding school experience
ECERS	Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale	ECERS is a nationally recognized measure of preschool classroom quality. This instrument can be used to collect baseline data in the initial stages of classroom improvement and as a comparative index across statewide programs and over time.
ELL	English Language Learner	Pupils whose native language is not English and who have difficulty speaking, reading, writing or understanding the English language as measured by an English language proficiency test. Thus, they require bilingual or English as a Second Language programs in order to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English.
ELLI	Early Launch to Learning Initiative	Funding for a preschool program for income eligible three and four year olds.
EM	Everyday Math	A hands-on math curriculum.
Emergency Response Plan		Procedures identified to ensure the safety and security of students and staff specified by particular possible events.
Entitlement Grant		A grant in which funds are provided to specific grantees on the basis of a formula, prescribed in legislation or regulation, rather than on the basis of an individual project. The formula is usually based on such factors as population, enrollment, per-capita income, or a specific need. Applicants do not compete for these funds.
ESY	Extended School Year	School beyond the typical school year for classified students so that regression doesn't occur.
ETS	Educational Testing Service	ETS is a nonprofit institution advancing quality education with valid educational testing, curriculum development assets and test prep products.
ETTC	Educational Technology Training Center	Located at Stockton College, ETTC provides professional development opportunities for preK-12 educators, technology coordinators, school administrators, and other professionals who offer support services to schools.
EVVRS	Electronic Violence and Vandalism Reporting System	Reporting system that is submitted to the state on a monthly basis for violence and vandalism incidents.

EWEG	Electronic Web-Enabled Grant System	Electronic grant reporting system.
F & RL	Free and Reduced Lunch Program	National School Lunch Program that provides free and reduced meals to income eligible students.
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act	Affords parents/guardians and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.
Fundamental 25		Lessons learned outside the classroom walls that have great influence on learning as well. And these are the lessons, the ones learned outside the classroom walls, that highlight our shared values and our common ideals - values and ideals about how we should live our lives and how we should interact with others, which also have great influence on student academic success.
GCU	Georgian Court University	Located in Lakewood, GCU is part of the Stafford Township School District Professional Development Academy, offers graduate level courses held in district for all certified staff.
H1NI	Swine Flu	Refers to a respiratory infection caused by influenza A viruses that ordinarily cause illness in pigs. Humans can catch swine flu from infected pigs, but pig-to-human transmission is unusual. Human-to-human transmission of true swine flu is also possible but infrequent.
HOFNOD	Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs	Program designed to support fishing as a lifelong activity for students to share with family and friends to avoid drug use and other harmful behaviors.
HQT	Highly Qualified Teacher	Under <i>No Child Left Behind</i> , teachers in core academic areas must be highly qualified in those subjects by the end of the 2005-06 school year. A highly qualified teacher is one who has a bachelor's degree, full state certification and demonstrated competency, as defined by the state, in each core academic subject he or she teaches.
HSL	Home School Liaison	Certified teachers who serve as active members of the Intervention and Referral Services committee and whose purpose is to design and recommend interventions for students experiencing difficulties in school. They strive to enlist the support and cooperation of the student's family to ensure communication and continuity of instruction between school and home. They also develop and provide activities for parents to use at home to strengthen needed skills and develop and host parent workshops.
IAQ	Indoor Air Quality	
I&RS	Intervention and Referral Services	The purpose of the I&RS committee is to recommend interventions for students experiencing difficulties in school. Each I&RS committee is made up of the building principal, the classroom teacher, the home/ school liaison, guidance counselor and additional personnel as needed. When students are referred to the committee, a plan is developed to help the student become more successful. Parents/guardians are involved throughout the process.
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	IDEA ensures that a free, appropriate public education is available to any student with a disability who needs special education and related services.
IEP	Individualized Education Program	A written plan developed at a meeting that includes appropriate school staff and the parent(s). It determines the special education program for a student with disabilities through individually designed instructional activities constructed to meet the goals and objectives established for the student. It establishes the rationale for the student's placement and documents the provision of a free, appropriate public education.
ILA	Integrated Language Arts	Acknowledging the importance of teaching reading and writing together.
Incoming Kindergarten Mandatory Parent/Guardian Meeting		A yearly meeting for all parents/guardians of in-coming kindergarten students. Provides overview of district, kindergarten program and registration materials are handed out in preparation for the upcoming registration period.
Individual Student Progress Indicators		Report cards for grades 3- 6 include an Individual Student Progress grade which denotes the score received on an assessment administered in September, December, March and June. This score is reported to show the growth a student has made over the course of the year.

Instructional Council		Per teacher contract the purpose of the council shall be to strengthen the educational program through recommendation, research, implementation and evaluation by the superintendent and the Association to best meet the needs of the students, the schools and the community.
IRA	International Reading Association	A nonprofit, global network of individuals and institutions committed to worldwide literacy. The Association supports literacy professionals through a wide range of resources, advocacy efforts, volunteerism, and professional development activities. Our members promote high levels of literacy for all by improving the quality of reading instruction, disseminating research and information about reading, and encouraging the lifetime reading habit.
ISG	Individual Student Goals	Students, parents/guardians and teachers meet at the beginning of the year to share and discuss relevant information pertaining to the student as well as identify specific goals for each student. These ISG conferences allow parents/guardians and teachers to forge partnerships that are necessary to ensure each child's success.
JPC	Joint President's Council	A collaboration between the Stafford Township Education Foundation, the district and parent/guardian groups to coordinate activities.
KTKI	Kids to Kids International	International reading program where students create books for less fortunate kids.
Learnia		On-line assessment program for grades four through six aligned to state testing.
Learning Compact		Agreement between teachers, parent/guardians and student to work together to help the student become successful in the educational process. Required by NCLB.
Learning Express		On-line writing assessment program for students in grades 3-6.
LLD	Language Learning Disability	A disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using language, spoken or written.
Looping		When a teacher/class remains together for two years. This program eliminates the need for teachers and students to get to know each other.
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment	This sets the standard that, to the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with children who are not disabled. It means that special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of students with disabilities from the general educational environment should occur only when the severity of the disability is such that education in general education classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.
MARE		An interdisciplinary science program developed at Rutgers Lawrence Hall of Science for schools in the study and of the ocean and marine habitats.
Master Teacher		A head teacher whose responsibility is to support other teachers.
MD	Multiple Disabilities	Corresponds to "multiply handicapped" and means the presence of two or more disabling conditions. Multiple disabilities means concomitant impairment, the combination of which causes such severe educational problems designed for the separate disabling conditions will not meet the student's educational needs.
Mentoring Plan		Details the mentoring program for the district which is designed to retain new teachers and to enhance their individual expertise. The Plan is reviewed yearly and revised as needed and becomes part of the District's Professional Development Plan.
Mission Statement		"Stafford schools, together with parents and community, shall provide a secure and nurturing environment that promotes a positive self-image through solid educational achievements and high standards of behavior enabling our students to become life-long learners in a technological society."
MOESC	Monmouth Ocean Education Services Commission	A public non-profit agency which provides educational programs for school districts, students with special needs, parents/guardians and staff members of our member districts, and other Educational Services Commissions.
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	An agreement among Title III consortium members under No Child Left Behind stating how student progress will be assessed.
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress	An independent benchmark, NAEP is the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what American students know and can do in various subject areas. Since 1969, The National Center for Education Statistics has conducted NAEP assessments in reading, mathematics, science, writing, US history, geography, civics and the arts.
NCLB	No Child Left Behind	This is the most recent authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which is the principal federal law affecting K-12 education. The four main parts of NCLB are accountability, flexibility and local control; enhanced

		parental choice and a focus on what works in the classroom. NCLB requires state governments and educational systems to help low-achieving students in high poverty schools meet the same academic performance standards that apply to all students.
NEST	New Educator/Staff Training	One to three day session to acquaint new hires with some of the people, procedures, and programs that they will encounter here at Stafford. Included are workshops designed to help new educators during their first year in district.
NJAFPA	New Jersey Association of Federal Program Administrators	Organization comprised of educators who administer quality education programs for all children, with an emphasis on those children served by federal and state funded educational programs. With an increasing number of federal and state educational mandates, it is vital that an organization be available to assist its members in the understanding of, and compliance with, those mandates.
NJASBO	New Jersey Association of School Business Officials	A professional association comprised of individuals who administer or supervise a variety of operations within the school district including accounting, budgeting, data processing, environmental issues, food service management, maintenance, negotiations, payroll, purchasing and transportation.
NJASCD	New Jersey Association for Curriculum and Development	A state organization that focuses on providing excellence in the learning community. The cores aspect of the organization stresses teaching, learning, and educational leadership through it many products, programs, and services.
NJASK	New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge	The New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge 4 (NJ ASK 4) measures student achievement in the knowledge and critical thinking skills defined by the NJ CCCS in language arts literacy, math, and science. In 2003, NJ ASK 4 replaced the Elementary School Proficiency Assessment (ESPA) previously administered to New Jersey's fourth graders. NJ ASK 3 was officially administered in language arts literacy and math for the first time in 2004 to satisfy the testing mandate in <i>NCLB</i> to begin testing at grade 3. Tests for grades 5, 6, and 7 will be added in 2006 to complete the testing progression from grades 3-8.
NJCAP	New Jersey Child Assault Prevention	Statewide community-based program designed to teach children in grades K-12 the skills necessary to prevent peer, stranger and known adult assault.
NJDOE	New Jersey Department of Education	The state agency who oversees the education process in New Jersey. The NJDOE will provide leadership to prepare all students for their role as citizens and for the career opportunities of the 21st century.
NJPSA	New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association	A professional association dedicated to the improvement of the quality of teaching and learning in New Jersey. NJPSA has taken the lead in providing the highest quality professional development opportunities for its members which is comprised of principals, vice principals, supervisors, directors, assistant superintendents, superintendents and chief school administrators.
NJQSAC	New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum	A monitoring and evaluation system for public school districts and county vocational school districts.
NJSMART	NJ Standards Measurement and Resource for Teaching	State-mandated student identification tracking system. Every student is issued a state ID number that will follow them from K-12.
NJSSI	New Jersey Statewide Systemic Initiative	A discretionary grant in the area of science and math awarded to districts who demonstrate a desire to improve instruction in these two critical areas.
NJSTW	New Jersey Schools to Watch	<i>This program recognizes excellence in middle level education. High-performing schools maximize student growth, support learning for all students, and prepare students for success in high school, college, and careers.</i>
NSDC	National Staff Development Council	NSDC is committed to ensuring success for all students through staff development and school improvement by encouraging every educator to engage in effective professional learning every day so every student achieves
NTC	National Teacher Certification	Program created to raise the national standards for the teaching profession to a higher level thereby creating advanced-level educators.
OCC	Ocean County College	Located in Toms River, OCC is part of the Stafford School District Professional Development Academy, offers undergraduate level courses held in district for all staff.

OCCC	Ocean County Curriculum Consortium	Headed by the county superintendent and comprised of area curriculum administrators, this consortium strives to make available professional development opportunities and make curriculum
Pandemic Plan		Lesson plans in case school is closed an extended period of time. Ensures no break in instructional continuity.
Parent Bulletin Board		The district's monthly newsletter for parents/guardians. Recognizing that parents/guardians are an essential piece of their child's education, it is designed to increase communication and provide current information.
Parental Involvement		Parental involvement means the participation of parents/guardians in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring: that parents/guardians play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.
PBS	Positive Behavior Support	Required component of the Preschool Plan, refers to an environment, support-oriented approach to helping individuals with problem behavior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematic observation of behavior • An understanding of behavior as a result of its consequences • Objective analysis of behavior, using both (1) correlational observation of the behavior's antecedents (what occurs before the behavior) and consequences (what occurs after) and (2) systematic experimentation based on hypothesized causes of the behavior • Systematic teaching procedures, including modeling, prompting/cuing, shaping, chaining, and the like to prevent behavior
PD-360		A web-based professional learning resource that supports district staff in the establishment of a systemic, job-embedded program that emphasizes classroom implementation.
PDA	Professional Development Academy	Stafford Township School District Professional Development Academy provides a university setting within a school district environment offering graduate degree programs for all staff members, enabling them to carry out the district's mission. The goal is to promote the development of professional expertise and to retain quality teachers and administrators.
PESA	Parent Expectation Student Achievement	A program for parents/guardians that teaches parenting skills or interactions which improve children's academic achievement, communication with family members, and their self-esteem.
PGP	Professional Growth Plan	A multi-year professional learning plan for administrators that will enhance their knowledge and skills as instructional leaders.
PIP	Professional Improvement Plan	Yearly plan for certified staff that outlines their professional development and classroom goals.
PLC	Professional Learning Community	Concept that professional development is best when the responsibilities for the same are shared by teachers and administrators
Promotion Ceremony		A graduation ceremony for the sixth graders.
PSLP	Personalized Student Learning Plan	Piloted this upcoming school year for students in grades 6-12 and is a program to prepare students for the workforce and college by utilizing adult mentors, including parents/guardians, teachers, counselors, to help students achieve their educational goals.
Quantum		An academically gifted program for students in grades 3-6 who have ability index scores of 134 or higher. These students are pulled out with their grade level peers every week for an hour and a half throughout the school year. During this time they work on project-based activities designed to enhance the educational program by meeting student interest, supporting the grade-level curriculum, promoting critical thinking and containing a "give back" component.
Quest		An academically gifted program for students in grades 3-6 who have ability index scores between 127 and 133. These students are pulled out with their grade level peers every week for an hour and a half for one or two trimesters. During this time they work on project-based activities designed to enhance the educational program by meeting student interest, supporting the grade-level curriculum, promoting critical thinking and containing a "give back" component.

Quorum Forum		Afterschool program for academically gifted students with IQs between 120-125.
RealTime		System used for upkeep of student records.
Rosetta Stone		Program to develop proficiency in another language for all students. Students are instructed together but can practice individually.
RR	Reading Recovery	This is a literacy program for qualified first grade students who have been identified as needing intensive intervention. Students are selected based on their performance on a formalized observation survey. Students work one-on-one with a trained teacher for a period of up to 20 weeks in order to learn strategies that will ensure their reading success.
RTI	Response to Intervention	Monitored series of interventions to help struggling/at-risk learners.
Safe Harbor		A provision in NCLB intended for schools and districts that are making progress in student achievement but are not yet meeting target goals for Adequate Yearly Progress. It is designed to prevent the over-identification of schools not making AYP.
School Choice		Students in schools identified as in need of improvement will have the option to transfer to better public schools in their districts. The school districts will be required to provide transportation to the students. Priority will be given to low-income students.
School Dude		System used for reporting maintenance requests.
School Report Card		The report card for each school building in the state that contains information about student enrollment, test scores, attendance, and graduation rates, as well as information about teaching and administrative staff and district-level finance. It is prepared and disseminated annually to parents and other interested taxpayers within each local school district on the NJDOE website. One of the major sources of information for the report card is the annual report card data collection.
Scientifically-Based Research		This involves the application of rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures to obtain reliable and valid knowledge relevant to education activities and programs. Using educational practices grounded in sound scientifically-based research is expected to improve education across the nation.
Scoop		The district's newsletter that is delivered to residents of Stafford Township three times per year. It is designed to keep the community informed and involved in the schools they support.
SEMI	Special Education Medicaid Initiative	Designed to recover cost for certain services already provided to eligible students.
SEP	Summer Enrichment Program	Summer program that students can participate in to enhance their knowledge or skills in a particular area administered by teachers and sponsored through the Foundation.
Shared Services		The sharing of services between districts.
SINI	School in Need of Improvement	A designation based on Adequate Yearly Progress. AYP is calculated using 40 primary indicators and one secondary indicator (attendance). Schools that do not meet the benchmark on one of the indicators for two consecutive years are designated as "in need of improvement."
SLD	Specific Learning Disabilities	Corresponds to "perceptually impaired" and means a disorder in one or more of the basis psychological processes involved in understanding or using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations.
STAA	Stafford Township Administrators Association	A union comprised of Stafford administrators.
STAC	Stafford Township Arts Center	
STEA	Stafford Township Education Association	A union comprised of certified and non-certified staff of the Stafford Township School District.
STEF	Stafford Township Education Foundation	
Study Island		On-line program designed to provide practice for students on skills that need to be taught automatically.
Summer Bridges		Designed to help struggling general education students during the summer to prevent regression.
SuperGram		A weekly briefing to the board members of happenings in the district.

Systems 3000		System used for tracking personnel, payroll and accounting.
TA	Teacher Aide	A support person to a certified teacher.
Talking Points		Points of interests on a certain topic.
TCS	Test of Cognitive Skills	Test given to all second graders to determine potential for learning.
TESA	Teacher Expectation Student Achievement	A program for teachers designed to heighten the awareness of their perceptions and how those perceptions affect their expectations by minimizing the negative and maximizing the positive effects of expectation.
The Producers		Support group for the visual and performing arts program.
Title I		Title I Part A provides assistance to improve the teaching and learning of children in high-poverty schools to enable those children to meet challenging State academic content and performance standards. Title I is intended to supplement, not replace, state and district funds.
Title IIA		Through No Child Left Behind, Title IIA increases student achievement by elevating teacher and principal quality through recruitment, hiring and retention strategies.
Title IID		Through No Child Left Behind, Title IID enhances education through technology and strives to improve student academic achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools. It is also designed to assist every student in becoming technologically literate by the end of the eighth grade to encourage the effective instruction of technology resources and systems with teacher training and professional development to establish research-based instructional models.
Title III		Through No Child Left Behind, Title III focuses on language instruction for limited English proficient students and immigrant students and in helping these students meet the same challenging state standards required by all students.
Title IV		Through No Child Left Behind, Title IV focuses on safe and drug-free schools and communities and supports programs to prevent violence in and around schools; prevent the illegal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco by young people; and foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement.
Title VIB		IDEA grant for children ages 3-21.
TLF	Teacher Learning Facilitator	Teachers who will assist teachers with curriculum and instructional issues.
TOTY	Teacher of the Year Program	A district-level award program that honors teachers as effective instructors who influence student success. Teachers selected for this award are celebrated at an annual county affair.
TPC	Test Prep Club	Afterschool program to assist students in preparing for the NJASK test.
TPIN	Trading Partner Identification Number	The tax identification number used in applying for discretionary grants.
United for Stafford		Campaign to raise funds for under-privileged students and reduce cost of overall programs.
Vertical Articulation		Opportunities that allow teachers from different grade levels to meet and discuss expectations.
VIP	Very Important Performers	Available to students in grades 5 and 6 who demonstrate outstanding abilities in the areas of vocal or instrumental music, drama, dance and visual arts. Student participation in the VIP program is based on demonstrated ability and a commitment to participation in competitions and performances that highlight their talents. Students will be selected by participating in an individualized elimination process conducted by each VIP instructor.
Wellness Committee		A group comprised of district staff and community members who have jointly worked and put together a wellness plan for our students and staff.
Write On!		A Kindergarten writing program in which students are introduced to sounds and words as they master other literacy concepts through real life writing experiences. The Write On! format allows students to work at their independent levels and provides opportunities for student application and teacher assessment.
ZUMU		Program used for teacher-based websites.

9/14/09