

Glossary

Some definitions may be district specific. More information on most terms is available in the next section of this notebook.

Accommodations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• are for students with IEPs or 504 plans: Adjustments or adaptations in the test or the testing process that do not change the test expectation, the grade level, or the construct or content being measured.
AIMSweb	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An oral reading fluency measure. It is used as a benchmark as well as for measuring progress. Similar to DIBELS.
AYP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adequate yearly progress. Federal legislation holding schools accountable to increasing levels of student performance.
Benchmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An assessment given throughout the year to measure progress toward a goal. BPS administers two different benchmark assessments: AIMSweb and the NESAR Benchmark. Benchmarks are given to students 3 times per year.
Formative Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities to assess how students are learning and then use this information to make beneficial changes in instruction. Examples: Reading Mastery Checkouts, class discussion, quizzes, and Progress Monitoring Quizzes.
Lexile	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Lexile reader measure represents a person's reading ability on the Lexile scale. A Lexile text measure represents a text's difficulty level on the Lexile scale. Lexile reader measure comes from student performance on NWEA.
NCLB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Child Left Behind. Federal legislation regarding education.
NESA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nebraska State Accountability. Title of state tests.
NRT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Norm-referenced test. Norm-referenced tests allow us to compare a student's skills to others in his age group. Our district NRT is Measures of Academic Progress by Northwest Evaluation Association. Aka achievement test.
NSSRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nebraska Student and Staff Records System.
NWEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northwest Evaluation Association, aka MAPS, aka Levels.
PLAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be considered a pre-ACT. It is a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years.
Program specific assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessments that are build into instructional programs. For example: Reading Mastery, Saxon Math, and unit tests.
Progress Monitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measure progress toward a goal. Given several times during the school year. We currently use AIMSweb and Progress Monitoring Quizzes.
RIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short for Rasch Unit. Scale used to report scores on NWEA.
RTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response to intervention. Federal mandate that says we must identify and document a student's specific achievement difficulties, address them with proven strategies, and measure progress.
Scale Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A conversion of a student's raw score on a test or a version of the test to a common scale that allows for a numerical comparison between students.
STAR standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standards that are reported. A shorted version of the state content standards in math and science that are reported to NDE.
Star	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accelerated Reader placement test.
STARS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student and Teacher Accountability and Recording System. System of standards, assessment, and reporting. Being phased out as new accountability system is implemented.
STARS tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessments in science developed a consortium. Used to measure performance on STAR standards.
State Report Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Displays district information including student and teacher demographics and student performance, aka State of the Schools Report
Summative assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process of evaluating (and grading) the learning of students at a point in time. Generally at the end of the year or semester.
Test Administration Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes or adjustments in test administration that are appropriate for all students on all tests.