

Cape Cod Collaborative

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

January 16, 2008
Held at Sandwich High School
9:30 a.m.

Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director
Cape Cod Collaborative
508-564-5099, ext 22
a.woods.ccc@comcast.net
www.cccollaborative.org

This list is not inclusive of all terms, but shares some common abbreviations utilized in Education and Special Education fields. It is not intended as instruction but as a guide or introduction to terms.

I welcome any additions!

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

"A"		
AAC	Augmentative & Alternative Communication (device)	
ABA	Applied Behavior Analysis	Science of behavior, principles of learning
ABC	Antecedent-Behavior-Consequence	Usually related to ABC data (before/after)
ABI	Adaptive Behavior Inventory	Tool for measuring levels across 5 scales
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	1992 law defines disability & prohibits discrimination (PL 101-336)
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder	neurobiological disorder
ADL	Adaptive Daily Living (skill)	
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	neurobiological disorder
AEP	Alternative Education Program	
AES	Alternative Education Setting	
AFO	Ankle Foot Orthotics	foot/leg braces
AG	Annual Goal	
AGG	Aggression	
AI	Autistic Impairment	
AIT	Auditory Integration Therapy	
AMA	American Medical Association	
APD	Auditory Processing Disorder (also CAPD)	
APE	Adapted Physical Education	
APR	Annual Performance Report	
AROM	Active Range of Motion	exercises C241 to keep joints & muscles healthy
ART	Acute Residential Treatment	short-term crisis intervention
AS	Asperger Syndrome	in the Autism Spectrum
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Autism, Asperger's, PDD-NOS
ASE	Administrators for Special Education	Organization
ASHA	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	
ASL	American Sign Language	used by Deaf community
Aspie	Person with Asperger Syndrome	usually used by people w/AS
AT	Assistive Technology	
ATNR	Asymmetric Tonic Neck Reflex	rooting/sucking reflex in infants
AU	Autism	
AVB	Analysis of Verbal Behavior	based on B.F. Skinner's work
AYP	Adequate yearly progress	formula for schools/C65 part of NCLB
"B"		
BACB	Behavior Analyst Certification Board	
BASC	Behavior Assessment System for Children	Tool for measuring behavior & emotions
BCABA	Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst	Bachelors Level
BCBA	Board Certified Behavior Analyst	Master's Level
BD	Behavior Disorder	Pattern of hostile, aggressive, or disruptive behaviors for more than 6 mths
BIP	Behavior Intervention Plan	
BOE	Board of Education	State and National Boards
BP	Bi-Polar	Was known as "manic-depressive"
bid	twice a day (medications)	
BPD	Broncho Pulmonary Dysplasia	
BSP	Behavior Support Plan	

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

BSEA	Bureau of Special Education Appeals	Conducts mediations, advisory opinions and due process hearings to resolve disputes among parents, school districts, private schools & state agencies. The BSEA derives its authority from both federal law and regulations (IDEA) & Mass law & regulations.
BTP	Bureau of Transitional Planning	part of EOHHS, related to transition to adult services
"C"		
CA	Chronological Age	
CAPD	Central Auditory Processing Disorder	difficulty/inability to distinguish between sounds/words
CAR	Community Autism Resources	ASD resource for Southeast MA & Islands
CARS	Childhood Autism Rating Scale	
CAST	Center for Applied Special Technology	Education/Resources based on UDL
CBAT	Community based acute treatment	ICBAT (Intensive) only 1 in state right now (Worcester)
CC	Central Coherence	(Frith) Theory related to the ability to process (local & globally) & organize information
CD	Conduct Disorder	Group of behavior or emotional disorders
CD	Cognitive Disabilities or Cognitive delay	Broad term. Maybe with IQ under 70
CDC	Centers for Disease Control	www.cdc.gov
CEC	Council for Exceptional Children	Organization related to professionals in Special Ed
CEP	Current Education Placement	
CEU	Continuing Education Unit	related to professional development
c/f	Casein Free	Milk-based products
CF	Child Find	Federal program requires States to actively locate children birth-21 with DD or who are at risk for DD (focused on those not enrolled in school)
C-GAS	Children's Global Assessment of Functioning Scale	numeric scale (0 - 100) used by mental health clinicians and doctors to rate the social, occupational and psychological functioning of children under 18
CHADD	Children & Adults with ADHD	National non-profile organization (www.chadd.org)
CHAT	Checklist for Autism in Toddlers	
CHINS	Child in Need of Services (DSS)	Juvenile court assistant for parents & schools
CI	Cognitive Impairment	may also relate to dementia in older adults
CMR	Code of Massachusetts Regulations	
CNS	Central Nervous System	
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	related to 2 lung diseases: chronic bronchitis & emphysema (interferes w/breathing)
CORD	Cape Organization for the Rights of the Disabled	www.cordonline.org
COTA	Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant	
CP	Cerebral Palsy	Umbrella term for damage to motor areas of the brain
CPI	Crisis Prevention Intervention	De-escalation techniques
CPR	Coordinated Program Review	DOE review, every 6 yrs, compliance to regulations
CPR	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

CSP	Community Support Person	through personal insurance
CSPD	Comprehensive System of Personnel Development	IDEA guidelines for personnel development/training
CST	Child Study Team	
CT	Cat Scan	
CTE	Career and Technical Education	
CVA	Cerebral Vascular Accident	Sudden loss of consciousness followed by paralysis (caused by bleeding into the brain, formation of a blood clot or rupture of an artery in the brain)--stroke
CVI	Cortical Vision Impairment	temporary or permanent visual impairment
"D"		
DAS	Differential Abilities Scale	part of WISC - cognitive ability scale
DB	Deaf-Blind	
DD	Developmental Disabilities (or Disorders)	Physical and/or Mental disabilities manifested before age 21
DH	Developmentally Handicapped	
DI	Differentiated Instruction	an approach to teaching and learning so that students have multiple options for taking in information and making sense of ideas
DIBELS	Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills	
DMH	Department of Mental Health	State and Federal
DMR	Department of Retardation	State and Federal
DOB	Date of Birth	
DOE	Department of Education	State and Federal
DPH	Department of Public Health	State and Federal
DS	Down Syndrome	(Trisomy 21) presence of all or part of an extra Chromosome 21, genetic disorder
DSM	Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders	Handbook for diagnostic criteria
DSMR	Diagnostic Statistical Manual Revised	
DSS	Department of Social Services	
DTT	Discrete Trial Teaching (or Training)	Form of instruction, often related to ABA. Has 4 parts: (1) the trainer's presentation, (2) the child's response, (3) the consequence, and (4) a short pause between the consequence and the next instruction (between interval trials).
Dx	Diagnosis	
DYS	Department of Youth Services	
"E"		
EBD	Emotional Behavior Disability	(see BD)
EC	Early Childhood	usually Birth to age 8
ECE	Early Childhood Education	
ECG	Electro Cardio Gram	
ECSE	Early Childhood Special Education	
ED	Emotionally Disturbed or Emotional Disability	
EEC	Early Education and Care	preschool guidelines
EEG	Electro Encephalogram	

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

		Executive functions are the higher-order processes that enable us to plan, sequence, initiate, & sustain our behavior towards some goal, incorporating feedback & making adjustments along the way.
EF	Executive Function	
EHA	Education of Handicapped Children Act (PL 94-142)	(1975) now IDEA
EI	Early Intervention	Birth to age 3 services
EI	Emotional Impairment	
EIBI	Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention	psychological interventions, ABA principles
ELL	Early Learning Services	developmentally appropriate
ELL	English Language Learners	Students whose 1st language is not English
EMH	Educable Mentally Handicapped	usually mildly impaired in intellect and adaptive skills
EOHHS	Executive Office of Health & Human Services	services provided by 16 state agencies
EPSDT	Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment	Child health component of Medicaid
ESE	Exceptional Student Education	Students with special needs
ESEA	Elementary & Secondary Education Act	Federal; As mandated in the Act, the funds are authorized for professional development, instructional materials, and resources to support educational programs, and parental involvement promotion. The Act was originally authorized through 1970; however the government has reauthorized the Act every five years since its enactment.
ESL	English as a Second Language	Component of MA sheltered English immersion model
ESY	Extended School Year	often a "summer" program
Eval	Evaluation	
"F"		
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education	Part of IDEA - students with disabilities are entitled to FAPE in LRE to meet their individual needs through instruction and/or related services
FAS	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	A group of problems (birth defects, intellect, behavior, etc.) as a result of a mother's drinking during pregnancy
FBA	Functional Behavior Assessment	a problem solving process to hypothesize the function of behaviors
FBA	Functional Behavior Analysis	Begins w/assessment, but has the added step of altering variables (antecedents/consequences) to determine what is driving the behaviors
FBS	Family Based Services	
FCSN	Federation for Children with Special Needs	Resources for families (fcsn.org)
FCP	Family Continuity Program	A family service and behavioral healthcare organization
FERPA	Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act	federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act	related to access to records
FOC	Frontal Occipital Circumference	(baby) head circumference - important in growth/care
FRAX	Fragile X Syndrome	genetic disorder - X chromosome
FSP	Family Support Plan	IFSP - through EI

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

FST	Family Stabilization Team	Short-term intensive supports individual or family
FTE	Full Time Equivalency	
FTT	Failure to Thrive	descriptive term (not diagnosis) for children below a norm of height/weight
"G"		
GAF	Global Assessment of Functioning Scale	numeric scale (0 - 100) used by mental health clinicians and doctors to rate the social, occupational and psychological functioning of adults
g/f	Gluten free	free of ingredients derived from gluten-containing cereals: wheat (including Kamut and spelt), barley, rye, oats and triticale, and malt used for flavoring in foods
GT	Gifted and Talented	Academically advanced
"H"		
HBO	Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (or HBOT)	
HFA	High Functioning Autism	informal term; IQ 80 or above
HI	Hearing Impaired	fluctuating or permanent
HoH	Hard of Hearing	
HQ	Highly Qualified	Part of NCLB - related to professional development/training in the content areas taught
"I"		
IBSP	Individual Behavior Support Plan	developed after gathering information (e.g. FBA) to target a specific behavior(s)
ICM	Intensive Case Manager	through personal insurance
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	revised in 2004
IEE	Independent Educational Evaluation	State and Federal regulations
IEP	Individualized Education Plan	A plan developed by a team to meet the individual special needs
IFSP	Individualized Family Support Plan	EI (birth -3) program plan
IHCP	Individualized Health Care Plan	for a student with medical needs
IPDP	Individual Professional Development Plan	Guides PD for an individual's DOE certification
IQ	Intelligence Quotient	
ISP	Individualized Service Plan	a plan developed by a team or the individual to meet the individual special needs of an adult
IST	Information Services & Technology	DOE data (e.g. SIMS)
ITP	Individualized Transition Plan	State & Federal guidelines - students 16+ for readying to leave school services
"J"		
"K"		
KAFO	Brace up to hip	
KFO	Brace up to knee	
"L"		
LA	Lead Agency	
LD	Learning Disability	Refers to a group of disorders that affect a broad range of academic and functional skills including the ability to speak, listen, read, write, spell, reason and organize information.
LEA	Local Education Agency	School district

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

LEP	Limited English Proficiency	G.L.c.71A “a child who does not speak English or whose native language is not English and who is not currently able to perform ordinary class work in English.”
LFA	Low Functioning Autism	informal term: IQ below 80
LKS	Landau Kleffner Syndrome	childhood disorder - the gradual or sudden loss of the ability to understand and use spoken language (80% w/seizures)
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment	IDEA: a student who has a disability should have the opportunity to be educated with non-disabled peers, to the greatest extent possible
"M"		
MAAPS	Massachusetts Association of Approved Private Schools	
MD	Manic Depression	Bipolar - mood swings from high to low
MBHP	Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership	through Mass Health
MCAS	Massachusetts Curriculum Assessment System	designed to meet the requirements of the Education Reform Law of 1993
MCR	Mid Cycle Review	DOE onsite visits to determine the effectiveness of a corrective action plan; monitor compliance
MD	Multiple Disabilities	exhibiting a wide range of characteristics, depending on the combination and severity of disabilities, and the person's age
MGL	Massachusetts General Law	
MH	Multiply Handicapped	combination of disabilities
MH	Mental Health	
MI	Mental Impairment	
MMR	Mild Mental Retardation	child is functioning approximately 2-4 years behind or 2-3 standard deviations below the norm or have an IQ under 70-75
MOEC	Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives	
MPD	Multiple Personality Disorder	Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) is a severe condition in which two or more distinct identities, or personality states, are present in -- and alternately take control of -- an individual
MR	Mental Retardation	IQ of 70 or below
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging	
MSDD	Multi-system developmental disorder	newer terms to describe a group of children with communication, social, and sensory processing problems who do not fit into other categories such as autism (Greenspan)
MTEL	Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure	
"N"		
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress	"The Nation's Report Card" The only nationally representative & continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas.
NAMI	National Association for the Mentally Ill	www.nami.org

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

NBD	Neurobiological Disorder	illness of the nervous system caused by genetic, metabolic, or other biological factors
NC	Non-compliance	failure or refusal to comply
NCLB	No Child Left Behind (Act 2002)	Federal Act: 4 key principles- stronger accountability for results; greater flexibility for states, school districts & schools in the use of federal funds; more choices for parents of children from disadvantaged backgrounds; & an emphasis on teaching methods that have been demonstrated to work
NDA	Not diagnosed with anything or Non-disabled	
NICHCY	National Information Center for Children & Youth with Disabilities	www.nichcy.org
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	
NIH	National Institute for Health	
NLD	Non-verbal Learning Disability (or NLVD)	Neurophysiological disorder originating in the right hemisphere of the brain. Reception of nonverbal or performance-based information governed by this hemisphere is impaired in varying degrees, including problems with visual-spatial, intuitive, organizational, evaluative, and holistic processing functions
NOD	Not otherwise defined	
NOS	Not Otherwise Specified	within the DSM
NOS	Not of specific origin	
NT	Neurologically typical	"those who aren't autistic"
<u>"O"</u>		
OBE	Outcome-based Education	(now widely understood as standards-based education) is definition of education that shifts from the traditional focus on what students should be taught (content) and how much time they should be taught it for, to a focus on setting universal standards of what students are expected to demonstrate they "know and are able to do".
OCD	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	Psychiatric anxiety disorder most commonly characterized by a subject's obsessive, distressing, intrusive thoughts and related compulsions (tasks or "rituals") which attempt to neutralize the obsessions.
OCD	Oppositional Conduct Disorder	a recurrent pattern of negativistic, defiant, disobedient, and hostile behavior toward authority figures that persists for at least 6 months
OCR	Office of Civil Rights	
ODD	Oppositional-Defiant Disorder	
OHI	Other Health Impairment	Having limited strength, vitality or alertness, due to chronic or acute health problems.
OI	Orthopedic Impairment	
OM	Orientation and Mobility Instruction (or O & M)	for the blind
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs	

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

OSERS	Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services	
OT	Occupational Therapist or Therapy	
"P"		
P&A	Protection and Advocacy	
PAC	Parent Advisory Council	603 CMR 28.07: Special Education
PBIS	Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports	established to address the behavioral and discipline systems needed for successful learning and social development of students (www.pbis.org) School-wide, small group, individual
PBS	Positive Behavior Supports	
PBSP	Positive Behavior Support Plan	targeted
PDD	Pervasive Developmental Disorders	category of disorders characterized by difficulties/delays in communication, social interaction, and display of repetitive behaviors
PDD-nos	Pervasive Developmental Disorders-Not otherwise specified	within the Autism spectrum
PDP	Professional Development Point	related to continuing education or re-certification
PDR	Physicians Desk Reference	
PECS	Picture Exchange Communication System	a method of using picture symbols as expressive language
PET	Positron Emission Tomography (brain scan)	
PHI	Physically/Health Impaired	presence of a physical impairment that limits mobility
PICU	Pediatric Intensive Care Unit	
PIQ	Performance IQ	measures perceptual organization
PL	Public Law	
PLEP	Present Levels of Educational Performance	
PLOP	Present Level of Performance	individuals needs related to academic/ educational achievement & learning characteristics, social development, physical development, & management needs
po	by mouth	
PQA	Program Quality Assurance	unit within DOE that manages the Problem Resolution System (state or federal laws, regulations, policies)
PROM	Passive Range of Motion	exercises done by a helper for healthy joints & muscles (i.e. stretching by PT)
PRT	Pivotal Response Treatment	ABA based - 2 pivotal behaviors that affect a wide range of behaviors in children with autism: motivation and responsivity to multiple cues (Koegel)
PT	Physical Therapist or Therapy	
PTI	Parent Training & Information	
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	an anxiety disorder that can develop after exposure to a terrifying event or ordeal in which grave physical harm occurred or was threatened
pwn	Prio written notice	
"Q"		

"What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo"

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

"R"		
RDI	Relationship Development Intervention	Parent-training program to build on teaching social interaction (Gutstein)
REI	Regular Education Initiative	response to identified problems in our system for educating low-performing children
RTC	Residential Treatment Center	
RTI	Response to Intervention	Model for schools to identify students with LD & prevent academic failure - combined assessment & instruction
Rx	Treatment or Prescription	
"S"		
SA	Self Assessment	
SASID	State Assigned Student Identifier number	DOE data system
SBH	Severe Behavior Handicap	
SCERTS	Social Communication/Emotional Regulation/Transactional Supports	Model/framework for supporting a child's development (geared toward autism)
SD	School District	
SDD	Specific Developmental Disability	
SDD	Significant developmental delay	
SE	Social-Emotional	
SEA	State Education Agency	state department of education
SED	Severe Emotional Disorder or Disability	
SED	Severely Emotionally Disturbed	
SEPP	Special Education Planning & Policy Development Office	
SERS	Special Education and Related Services	
SES	Supplemental Educational Services	
SESA	Special Education Service Agency	
SID	Sensory Integration Dysfunction (or SI)	Neurological disorder causing difficulties with processing information from the five classic senses (vision, auditory, touch, olfaction, and taste), the sense of movement (vestibular system), and/or the positional sense (proprioception).
SIB	Self-injurious behavior	often refers to any behavior that can cause tissue damage, such as bruises, redness, and open wounds
SIB-R	Scales of Independent Behavior - Revised	Norm referenced assessment looking at adaptive and maladaptive behaviors
SIPT	Sensory Integration and Praxis Text	
SIMS	Student Information Management System	a student-level data collection system that allows DOE to collect & analyze info to meet federal & state reporting requirements, & to inform policy & programmatic decisions

"What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo"

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

		Disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, which disorder may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell, or do mathematical calculations.
SLD	Specific Learning Disability	
SLI	Speech and Language Impairment	
SLP	Speech-Language Pathologist	
SMA	Spinal Muscular Atrophy	
SMI	Severe Mental Impairment	Mental illness or impairment
SPED	Special Education (or SpEd)	
SS	Social Worker (LSW - Licensed)	
SSI	Social Security Income	
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income	
SSRI	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors	category of medications - antidepressants
SSW	School Social Worker	
STIO	Short Term Instructional Objective	benchmarks
STO	Short Term Objective	
SP/L	Speech and Language	
SWD	Students with disabilities	
SXI	Severely Multiply Impaired	
"T"		
TBI	Traumatic Brain Injury	complex injury resulting in a range of symptoms and disabilities
TDD	Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (or TTY)	
TEACCH	Treatment & Education of Autistic & Related Communication Handicapped Children	
tid	Three times a day	
TMH	Trainable Mentally Handicapped	
TMI	Trainable Mental Impairment	
TO	Time Out	
TS	Tourette's Syndrome	inherited neurological disorder with onset in childhood, characterized by the presence of multiple physical (motor) tics and at least one vocal (phonic) tic; these tics characteristically wax and wane
TS	Tuberous Sclerosis	multi-system genetic disorder causing benign tumors to grown on brain or other organs
TVI	Teacher of the Visually Impaired	
Tx	# of treatments	
"U"		
UDL	Universal Design for Learning	framework for designing curriculum to accommodate all learners of differing styles and abilities
"V"		
VI	Visually Impaired or Visual Impairment	
VIQ	Verbal IQ	measures verbal comprehension
Voc	Vocation or Vocational Education	
VR	Vocational Rehabilitation	

“What Does That Mean? Decoding the Special Education Lingo”

Cape Cod Collaborative, Anita Woods, M.Ed. Program Director

"W"		
WFL	Within functional limits	
WIAT	Wechsler Intelligence Achievement Test	
WISC	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children	
W-J-R	Woodcock-Johnson Revised	
WLP	Whole Life Planning (also PCP - Person Centered Planning)	Team/Family planning process for transition from school to adult services/adult world
WNL	Within normal limits	
"X"		
"Y"		
YO	Years old	
"Z"		