

## DEFINITIONS

Achievement Test	An objective examination that measures educationally relevant skills or knowledge about such subjects as reading, spelling, or mathematics.
Assessment	The way students can demonstrate the knowledge and skills they possess.
At-risk Student	A student who is academically unsuccessful as evidenced by low test scores, retention, failing grades, low grade point average, falling behind in earned credits, or not meeting the state or district proficiency levels in reading, mathematics, or writing, has a history of disruptive behavior in school or is eligible for out-of-school suspension or expulsion, or has a pattern of excessive absenteeism or has been identified as a habitual truant.
Average	A statistic that indicates the central tendency or most typical score of a group of scores. Most often average refers to the sum of a set of scores divided by the number of scores in the set.
Center-Based Classroom	Classrooms, which use activity focal points, centers, as their primary means of instruction.
Class II, III or IV Offenses	Violations of the Code of Student Conduct, which are intermediate (Class II), major (Class III) or zero tolerance (Class IV).
Content Standard	Specifications of what students know and should be able to demonstrate.
Cooperative Learning	An educational approach based on individuals who work in groups harmoniously.
Core Subject	Primary academic areas (i.e., science, math, reading, English, language, social studies).

## Definitions continued

Criterion-Referenced Test	A measurement of achievement of specific criteria or skills in terms of absolute levels of mastery. The focus is on performance of an individual as measured against a standard or criterion rather than against performance of others who take the same test, as with norm-referenced tests.
Cumulative Folder	An individual student record file, which includes academic achievement, social health and general student information.
Diagnostic Test	An intensive, in-depth evaluation process with a relatively detailed and narrow coverage of a specific area. The purpose of this test is to determine the specific learning needs of individual students in order to be able to meet those needs through regular or remedial classroom instruction.
Diagnostic/Prescriptive Teaching	A precise teaching method that uses specific measurements to teach, re-teach, assess and continue.
Direct Instruction	An instructional approach to academic subjects that emphasizes the use of carefully sequenced steps that may include demonstration, modeling, guided practice and independent application.
Domain-Referenced Test	A test in which performance is measured against a well-defined set of tasks or body of knowledge (domain). Domain-referenced tests are a specific set of criterion-referenced tests and have a similar purpose.
Embedded Assessment	A program or activity that contains built-in, not separate, assessments.
Formative Assessment	Measurement tools utilized to assess the current academic level of instruction.

## Definitions continued

Grade Equivalent	The estimated grade level that corresponds to a given score.
Individual Instruction	Teaching one student at a time.
Individualized Behavior Contract	A student/teacher contract that identifies specific behaviors to be improved.
Informal Test	A non-standardized test that is designed to give an approximate index of an individual's level of ability or learning style, often teacher-contracted.
Infused	Integrated throughout.
Learning Modalities	Approaches to assessment or instruction stressing the auditory, visual, or kinesthetic-tactile avenues for learning that are dependent upon the individual.
Learning Styles	Approaches to assessment or instruction emphasizing the variations in temperament, attitude, and preferred manner of tackling a task. Typically considered are styles along the active/passive, reflective/impulsive, or verbal/spatial dimensions.
Lexile Reading Inventory	A tool designed to bridge two aspects of student reading achievement: leveling text difficulty and assessing the reading skills of each student.
Multidisciplinary	The curriculum integration of one idea across more than one subject area.
Multi-modality	Addressing or using more than one of the following modalities: visual, auditory, kinesthetic-tactile.
Multi-sensory Learning	An instructional approach that combines auditory, visual, and tactile elements into a learning task. Tracing sandpaper numbers while saying a number fact aloud would be a multi-sensory learning activity.

## Definitions continued

Norm-Referenced Test	An objective test that is standardized on a group of individuals whose performance is evaluated in relation to the performance of others; contrasted with criterion-referenced test.
Pathways Academy	Charter school established by FCCJ in 2006-2007; both GED Exit Option and standard diploma track available.
Peer Tutoring	Students academically assisting other same-age students.
Performance Standards	Precise statements defining the knowledge and skills students should acquire through content instruction. Performance Standards = performance description + work samples + commentaries on the work samples.
Performance Test	Measurement tool designed to evaluate general intelligence or aptitudes. Consists primarily of motor items or perceptual items because verbal abilities play a minimal role.
Portfolio	Collection of student work and other pertinent school information.
Program Evaluation	The systemic process by which the effectiveness of a program is examined and assessed.
Referring School	School that initiates the student referral.
Rubric	Systematic grading assessment.
Running Record	A tool used to track the progress of an individual student's text reading level. A running record is used to establish a reading accuracy level and self-correction rate, analyze the students' use of meaning, structure and visual cues, note student behavior observed, and plan for the next teaching points and learning steps for the student.

## Definitions continued

Standard	Definition of what we expect students to know and perform.
Standardized Test	A form of measurement that has been normed against a specific population. Standardization is obtained by administering the test to a given population and then calculating means, standard deviations, standardized scores, and percentiles. Equivalent scores are then produced for comparisons of an individual score to the norm group's performance.
Strand	Individual indicators detailing standards.
Summative Assessment	Measurement or tools used to determine the outcome of student's academic progress.