

GLOSSARY OF AT-RISK TERMS

Alternative Program - An established class or environment within the regular educational program designed to accommodate specific student educational needs such as, but not limited to, work related training, reading, mathematics, science, communication, social skills, physical skills, employability skills, study skills, or life skills.

Alternative School - An established environment apart from the regular educational program with policies and rules, staff, and resources designed to accommodate student needs and to provide a comprehensive education consistent with the student learning goals and the content standards established by the school district or by the school districts participating in a consortium. Students attend via choice.

At-risk Student - Any identified student needing additional support who is not meeting or expected to meet the goals of the educational program (academic, personal/social, career/vocational) established by the district as demonstrated by one or a combination of factors other than disability including, but not limited to, homeless children and youth, dropouts, returning dropouts, and potential dropouts.

Dropout – A school-age student served by a public school district enrolled in any of grades seven through twelve who does not attend school or withdraws from school for a reason other than death or transfer to another approved school or school district or has been expelled with no option to return.

Potential Dropouts - Resident pupils who are enrolled in a public or nonpublic school who demonstrate poor school adjustment as indicated by two or more of the following:

- a. High rate of absenteeism, truancy, or frequent tardiness.
- b. Limited or no extracurricular participation or lack of identification with school, including but not limited to, expressed feelings of not belonging.
- c. Poor grades, including but not limited to, failing in one or more school subjects or grade levels.
- d. Low achievement scores in reading or mathematics, which reflect achievement at two years or more below grade level.

Returning Dropouts - Resident pupils who have been enrolled in a public or non-public school in any of grades seven through twelve who withdrew from school for a reason other than transfer to another school or school district and who subsequently enrolled in a public school in the district.