

**Arrowhead Regional Computing Consortium
K-12 Acronym Listing**

| Acronym | Full Name | Function |
|----------------|--|--|
| A B E | Adult Basic Education | Program which provides academic instruction for persons over age 16 who do not attend school. |
| A C H | Automated Clearing House | Direct deposit payroll files that are electronically sent to banks. |
| A D A | Average Daily Attendance | Deals with days student is present at school (discounts absences). |
| A D M | Average Daily Membership | Deals with the number of instructional days in the school year. If a student had perfect attendance, his attendance would equal his membership. |
| A F D C | Aid to Families with Dependent Children | Qualified aid to families determined by state statute as low-income. |
| A File | School data reported to the CFL | Part of MARSS report. |
| A G C | Accounting Guidelines Committee | Group that develops and approves UFARS and Financial issues. |
| A L C | Area Learning Center | Year round school providing instruction to students and adults. |
| A L P | Area Learning Program | Same as ALC. |
| A L S | Arrowhead Library System | A group of 30 libraries serving citizens in Northeast Minnesota. |
| A M C P U | Adjusted Marginal Cost Pupil Unit | Total of the adjusted weighted average daily membership for the current school year multiplied times .9 plus the total of the adjusted weighted average daily membership for the prior school year multiplied by .1. |
| A N T C | Adjusted Net Tax Capacity | The property value used for assessing most school taxes. |
| A O M | Assurance of Mastery | Direct instructional services to assure that K-8 pupils master learner outcomes in communications and math. |
| A P | Accounts Payable | Unpaid balances or invoices against a school district which are due and owing to others. |
| A R | Accounts Receivable | Amounts owed to the school for goods and services provided by the school. |
| A R C C | Arrowhead Regional Computing Consortium | Provides finance, payroll and student data processing services as well as other administrative services to school districts in the seven counties in Northeast Minnesota. |
| A S B O | Association of School Business Officials | National organization for School Business Officials. |
| A T M | Asynchronous Transfer Mode | A communications medium capable of transmitting voice, video and data over a single network. |
| B File | Student data reported to the CFL | Part of MARSS report. |
| B R I | Basic Rate Interface | The basic ISCN configuration consists of two B channels that carry voice or data, and one D channel which carries call-control information. |
| C A D | Computer Aided Design | Use of computers for designing new products. |
| C A I | Computer Aided Instruction | Use of computers in instruction or education. |
| C F L | Children, Families and Learning | See DCFL below. |
| C File | Basic Standards Test data reported to CFL | Part of MARSS report. |
| C H I C | Community Health Information Collaborative | A collaborative of healthcare entities that are interested in participating in the Northeast ATM Project. |
| C L L S A S | Consortium for Legislation in Lake Superior Area Schools | Lobbying consortium made up of the following member school districts: Barnum, Carlton, Cloquet, Cook County, Cromwell, Esko, Hermantown, Lake Superior, McGregor, Moose Lake, Proctor and Wrenshall. |
| C O | Central Office | A local telephone company office which connects to all local loops in a given area and where circuit switching of customer lines occurs. |
| CODEC | Coder-decoder | A device that coverts analog signals to digital form for transmission across a digital medium and back again to its original analog form |
| C P E | Customer Premises Equipment | Telephone terminal devices such as handsets and PBX's that are located on the customer's premises. |
| C P U | Central Processing Unit | Part of the computer that contains all the system's logic, computation and control circuits |
| C R T | Cathode Ray Tube | Vacuum tube display in which a bean of electrons can be controlled to display characters, symbols and other images. |

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| C S U | Channel Service Unit | Digital interface that connects end-user equipment with the local digital telephone loop. |
| D B M S | Database Management System | A collection of programs that enables you to store, modify, and extract information from a database. |
| D C E | Data Communicating Equipment | A device implementing the interface and handshaking of a data communication device, e.g..... A modem. |
| D C F L | Department of Children Families and Learning | State of Minnesota Department of Education. |
| D E C R | District Electronic Curriculum Repository | Same as MECR, but at district level. |
| D R C | Data Recognition Corporation | Agency that scans test data for school district. |
| D S 0 | Digital Signal 0 | Equivalent to voice Grade Digital Channel of 64 Kbps |
| D S U | Data Service Unit | FCC mandated device for direct connects between customer premises equipment (CPE) and data-provisioned local exchange carrier (LEC) |
| D T E | Data Terminal Equipment | The part of a data station that serves as a data source, destination or both. Includes computers, protocol translators and multiplexers. |
| Do I T | Do Information Technology | An information technology initiative meant to strengthen the TTRA economy by providing focus and assistance to communities, businesses and institutions in awareness, understanding and utilization of advanced technology. |
| E-Rates | E-Rate Program | Discounts on telecommunication expenses funded through the Universal Service Fund. This tax paid by telecommunication companies helps fund discounted telecommunication services to rural health and schools and libraries. Program is administered by the Schools and Library Division under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission. |
| E C F E | Early Childhood Family Education | Programs for children from birth to kindergarten, involving parents and expectant parents. |
| E C S U | Educational Cooperative Services Unit | This acronym was previously used by the entities we currently know as Service Cooperatives. As an example the former North East Educational Cooperative Service Unit is now known as the North East Service Cooperative. |
| E D I | Electronic Data Interchange | Method for passing orders, invoices and other transactions electronically between locations or organizations. |
| E D R S | Electronic Data Reporting System | Used by school districts to report their special education Title I, Title II, Title VI, food service and federal class size information to the DCFL. |
| E O Y | End of Year | End of Year (for MARSS either EOY or Fall). |
| E S L | English as a Second Language | English program where students are taught to read, write, listen, and speak in English. |
| F A Q | Frequently Asked Questions | List of frequently asked questions usually found on a company's web site. |
| F C C | Federal Communications Commission | Body of Government responsible for telecommunications. Also govern E-Rates. |
| F M T | Financial Management Team | Group that coordinates the enhancements to SMART Finance. |
| F T P | File Transfer Protocol | AN IP application protocol for transferring files between network nodes. |
| F Y | Fiscal Year | For school districts July 1 to June 30. |
| GL File | General Ledger Entries | File that payroll creates to import into SMART finance to record payroll transactions for that period. |
| G U I | Graphical User Interface | A program interface that takes advantage of the computer's graphics capabilities to make the program easier to use. |
| H A C A | Homestead Agricultural Credit Aid | Property tax aid that reduces school levies. |
| H E S C | Higher Education Service Council | A citizens board made up of eight citizen members and one student appointee. The council reviews the performance of the HESO. |
| H E S O | Higher Education Service Office | A state agency that helps students access post-secondary educational opportunities. |
| H T M L | Hypertext Markup Language | The "language" used to create web pages. It defines fonts, graphics, hypertext links and other details. |

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| H T T P | Hypertext Transfer Protocol | The protocol that negotiates document delivery to a Web browser from a Web server. |
| I D E A S | Integrated District Entitlement and Aid System | School district state aid payment system. |
| I E E E | Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers | International society that sets its own datacomm standards. |
| I E P | Individual Education Plan | Students who are assessed and require special education services have an IEP. |
| I F S P | Individual Family Service Plan | Special Ed document. |
| I P | Internet Protocol | A Layer 3 (network layer) protocol that contains addressing information and some control information that allows packets to be routed. |
| I R R B | Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board | A state agency designed to strengthen and diversify the economy of the Taconite Tax Relief Area (TTRA) of Northeastern Minnesota. |
| I S D | Independent School District | Type of school district. |
| I S P | Internet Service Provider | A company that sells Internet access to individuals or organizations. |
| I T V | Interactive Television | Communication system used for distance learning. |
| L A | Licensed Staff Employment File | Staff Automated Reporting System file that outlines licensed staff employment status. |
| L B | Licensed Staff Assignment File | Staff Automated Reporting System file that outlines licensed staff assignments. |
| L A N | Local Area Network | A network that connects local devices. Does not cross public rights of way. |
| L A T A | Local Access and Transport Area | A geographic area established for the provision and administration of communication services. |
| L E A | Local Education Agency | An educational agency at the local level which exists primarily to operate schools or to contract for educational services. This term is used synonymously with the term "school district". |
| L E C | Local Exchange Company | A telephone company that provides customer access to the worldwide public switched network through one of its central offices. |
| L E P | Limited English Proficiency | Student is not proficient in English. Program which provides instruction to students with limited English skills. |
| M A R S S | Minnesota Automated Reporting Student System | Reporting of student accounting for school districts which results in payment of state aid dollars. |
| M A S A | Minnesota Association of School Administrators | Minnesota organization for School Administrators. |
| M A S B O | Minnesota Association of School Business Officials | Minnesota organization for School Business Officials. |
| Mbps | Million bits per second | Short for megabits per second, a measure of data transfer speed. Networks, for example, are generally measured in Mbps |
| M D E | Minnesota Department of Education | See DCFL above. |
| M D E S | Minnesota Department of Economic Security | Place where Minnesota employers report hours worked for employees for unemployment purposes. |
| M E C R | Minnesota Electronic Curriculum Repository | A curriculum repository for use by educators when planning instruction to meet the Profiles of Learning. |
| M E T C | Minnesota Education Telecommunications Council | A council made up of representatives from K-12 education, higher education, DCFL, Libraries and the legislature. Their charge is to allocate TAG funds and get these entities networked. |
| M I S | Management Information System | A network of communication channels that acquires, retrieves, and redistributes data used in managing the educational process and in supporting the individual and collective decision-making process. |
| M N S C U | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities | Oversees the operation of all state colleges and universities not part of the University of Minnesota System. |
| M P E G | Motion Picture Experts Group | Industry organization developing standards and specifications for the encoding and transmission of video information over various media and network technologies. |
| M S | Minnesota Statutes | Will preface a specific Minnesota statute being referenced. As an example M.S. 125B.20 covers telecommunications access grants. |
| M S B A | Minnesota School Boards Association | Minnesota organization for School Boards. |

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| MUG | Media Users Group | A regional group of individuals involved with providing media and library services. |
| M V | Market Value | The value assigned to property by an assessor. |
| N A | Non-Licensed Staff File | Staff Automated Reporting System file that outlines non-licensed staff employment status. |
| N C E S | National Center for Education Statistics | Federal agency to which Minnesota DCFL supplies data for uniform comparison of states. |
| N C S | National Computer System | Agency that scans test data for school district. |
| N C S E | Notification of Change in Student Enrollment | #ED-02037 A means to exchange student information between districts when a student transfers. |
| N E A T | North East Alliance for Telecommunications | Provides distance learning services to 13 higher education institutions in Northeast Minnesota. |
| N E M T A G | North East Minnesota Telecommunications Access Grant | The telecommunications access grant (TAG) awarded to a cluster of school districts and libraries in Northeast Minnesota. |
| N E S C | North East Service Coop | Provide various services to school districts and other governmental entities in Northeast Minnesota. |
| N M T N | Northeast Minnesota Telecommunications Network | AN ITV cooperative with K-12 members: Barnum, Carlton, Cloquet, Cromwell, Duluth, Esko, Hermantown, Moose Lake, Proctor, St. Louis County, Willow River, Wrenshall and higher education members: Fond Du Lac Community College, Lake Superior College and UMD. |
| N O C | Network Operations Center | Any center tasked with the operational aspects of a production network. |
| N T C | Net Tax Capacity | The measure of value used by taking the market value of property and multiplying it by the assigned class rate. |
| O C-x | Optical Carrier | Fundamental unit used on SONET hierarchy. |
| O L E | Object Linking and Embedding | Abbreviation of Object Linking and Embedding, pronounced as separate letters or as oh-leh. OLE is a compound document standard developed by Microsoft Corporation. It enables you to create objects with one application and then link or embed them in a second application. Embedded objects retain their original format and links to the application that created them. |
| O S | Operating System | Software that handles the management and execution of programs. Windows 98, UNIX, DOS are examples. |
| O S I | Open Systems Interconnection reference model | Seven layer network architecture model of data communication protocols. Each layer specifies particular network functions such as addressing, flow control, error control, encapsulation. |
| P B X | Private Branch Exchange | Short for private branch exchange, a private telephone network used within an enterprise. Users of the PBX share a certain number of outside lines for making telephone calls external to the PBX. |
| P E R A | Public Employees Retirement Association | Retirement fund for public employees. |
| P O | Purchase Order | A written request to a vendor to provide material or services at a price set forth in the order. |
| P O P | Point of Presence or Post Office Protocol | A term used by Internet service providers to indicate the number of geographical locations from which they provide access to the internet. |
| P O T S | Plain Old Telephone Service | Local and long distance service. |
| P R I | Primary Rate Interface | A type of ISDN service designated for larger organizations. Includes 23 B channels and 1 D-Channel. |
| P S E O | Post Secondary Enrollment Options | High school student attending college earning high school and college credit. |
| P V C | Permanent Virtual Circuit | A defined virtual link with fixed end-points that are set up by the network manager. |
| QoS | Quality of Service | Term used for the set of parameters and their values which determine the performance of a given virtual circuit. |
| R A M S | Range Association of Municipalities and Schools | An association of cities, townships and school districts located in the Taconite Tax Relief Area (TTRA). The association promotes the economic development and general welfare of the TTRA by assisting it's members in areas of common and specific concern. |

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| R B O C | Regional Bell Operating Company | Acronym for local telephone companies created when AT & T broke up in 1984. Ameritech, Bell Atlantic, Bell South, NYNEX, Pacific Telesis Group, Southwestern Bell, and U.S. West. |
| R F P | Request for Proposal | Formal request for a job with a specific set of qualifications. |
| R F Q | Request for Quotation | Formal request for a quote with a specific set of qualifications. |
| R M C P U | Resident Marginal Cost Pupil Unit | Total of the resident weighted average daily membership for the current school year multiplied times .9 plus the total of the resident weighted average daily membership for the prior school year multiplied by .1. |
| R M I C | Regional Management Information Center | A center that provides and supports data processing and other services for member school districts. |
| R M V | Referendum Market Value | Allows for certain types of property that have classification rates below one to have a lower market value than the value assigned by the assessor. |
| S A C | State Aid Category | A code used for non-resident students to determine state aids and which district generates the state aid. |
| S A C | Superintendents Advisory Committee | A committee that advises the NESC Board. |
| S L C | Schools and Library Corporation | E-Rate Administrator (Same as SLD). |
| S L D | Schools and Library Division | E-Rate Administrator (Same as SLC). |
| S O D | Statutory Operating Debt | In current statute, a district is in SOD when their net unappropriated fund balance is a negative amount which exceeds 2.5% of their net operating expenditures. |
| S O N E T | Synchronous Optical Network | A set of standards for transmitting digital information over optical networks. |
| S P M | Schools Portfolio Manager | Micro Sage Developed Student Tracking System (Schools:OPEN). |
| S Q L | Structured Query Language | Abbreviation of structured query language, and pronounced either see-kwell or as separate letters. SQL is a standardized query language for requesting information from a database. |
| S T A R | Staff Automated Reporting | Reporting of staff data to state department of education. |
| SMART Finance | System Management and Reporting Tool for Finance | School district finance software supported by ARCC. |
| SMART Payroll | System Management and Reporting Tool for Payroll | School district payroll software supported by ARCC. |
| T - 1 | Transmission Facility Transmitting data at 1.544 Mbps | Digital transmission facility operating with a nominal bandwidth of 1.544 Mbps. |
| T A G | Telecommunications Access Grant | Grants available under M.S. 125B.20 and .21 to develop a statewide telecommunications network. |
| T C P / I P | Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol | Suite of protocols developed by US Dept of Defense to support world wide internet works. TCP corresponds to layer 4, the transport layer, and IP corresponds to layer 3, the network layer. |
| T & E | Training and Experience | A revenue which is allocated to a school district based on the experience and education of its teaching faculty. |
| T F S | Tools For Schools | ARCC developed Grad Standards/Profiles of learning recording and reporting tool. |
| T File | Inter-district Electronic File Transfer | For students transferring from district to district. |
| T I F | Tax Increment Financing | A means of financing renewal and renovation projects authorized by general or special laws. |
| T R A | Teachers Retirement Association | Retirement fund for teachers. |
| T T R A | Taconite Tax Relief Area | The "Iron Range". See IRRRB and RAMS. |
| T U G | Technology Users Group | A group of individuals involved with technology in an educational environment. |
| U A N T C | Unlimited Adjusted Net Tax Capacity | Adjusted Net Tax Capacity amount without the 19% increase limit imposed. |
| U F A R S | Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting System | State of Minnesota standards used to account for and report school district financial data. |
| U P S | Uninterruptible Power Supply | Unit used to protect computer equipment from power surges and outages. Can be used to operate equipment for a time until it can be shut down properly. |

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| Acronym | Full Name | Function |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| U R L | Uniform Resource Locator | Abbreviation of Uniform Resource Locator, the global address of documents and other resources on the World Wide Web. The first part of the address indicates what protocol to use, and the second part specifies the IP address or the domain name where the resource is located. |
| V P N | Virtual Private Network | A network service offered by public carriers in which the customer is provided a network that appears as if it is a private network, but which, in fact, is provided over the carrier's public network facilities. |
| W A D M | Weighted Average Daily Membership | The total of the average daily membership of each grade level/category multiplied by their weighting factor. |
| W A N | Wide Area Network | A network that encompasses interconnectivity between devices offer a wide geographic area. Such networks require public rights of way and operate over long distances. |
| WWW | World Wide Web | Another term for the Internet. A network of Internet Servers. |