

Glossary of Terms

UDL- Universal Design for Learning, new frameworks based upon brain research that individualize instruction for all students and produce results for students in special education and English Learning Language.

DESE- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in Massachusetts (formerly the MA DOE)

MELA-O- Massachusetts English Language Assessment – Oral is a screen tool used in MA to assess student oral language proficiency level.

QMA- Qualified MELA-O Assessor can assess the oral language proficiency of students using the MELA-O

SEI- Sheltered English Immersion (this is an instructional model that includes strategies such as making content comprehensive for English language learners, creating safe learning environments, valuing background knowledge and culturally responsive instruction)

OELL- BPS Office of English Language Learners

SPED- Special Education, classes mandated for students with physical and cognitive disabilities through state and federal laws.

MEPA- Massachusetts English Proficiency Assessment, a report given to parents that measures students English skills.