SECONDARY EDUCATION IN TEXAS IS FULL OF SECRET ACRONYMS
MEMORIZE THESE AND THEN BURN THIS SHEET!

504 An accommodation plan for students with any kind of impairment, whether behavioral (i.e., ADHD) or physical (i.e., broken leg); can be assigned for a specified time period or the entire school year.

ARD An Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee decides whether or not to admit a student into the special education program. Composed of parents, teachers, administrators, special educators, and sometimes even the student, the committee creates the IEP.

BS A bachelor’s of science degree. Any other usage is not anything you should call any of the acronyms on this list.

ESL Students for whom English is a Second Language.

IEP An Individualized Education Plan is made for every student enrolled in the special education program. Accommodations may include preferential seating, repeated instructions, visual aids, extended assignment completion time, frequent breaks, and so forth. By law, every teacher must comply with the plan.

PDAS An annual evaluation of teachers by the assistant principal called Professional Development and something.

PLC A Professional Learning Community is a network of colleagues and mentors that meets often to provide support, undertake common lesson planning, and design assessments.
S&S  **Scope and Sequence** is a standard curriculum that outlines every moment of classroom time and is followed by an entire school or district. It means that an administrator can walk into any class and any moment and know exactly what should be going on.

SIOP  The **Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol** is designed to meet the needs of English language learners by providing teachers with resources and ideas for lesson modifications.

SLC  **Small Learning Communalities** unite core teachers (English, math, science, and social studies) in tending to the needs of freshmen and sophomore students.

STAAR  The **State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness** tests are the standardized tests conducted in grades 3 through 11. They are more open ended and will address college readiness and other skills instead of just content.

TEKS  The **Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills** are the legal standards that dictate what Texas teachers teach in their classrooms. They are updated approximately every 10 years by the State Board of Education. Additional standards guide college preparation and the teaching of personal financial literacy and Bible literacy.

TExES  The **Texas Educator Standards** identify the areas of competency to be mastered by those who desire state teacher certification.