



Acronyms/School Jargon

5K – This is a 5-Kilometer run that is a required final for all PE (Physical Education) classes.

ACT – American College Testing. One of the standardized tests for college applications. Typically taken in the winter/spring of the junior year or fall of the senior. Students sometimes take both the SAT and the ACT and submit the better score to colleges (<https://www.act.org>)

AP Course – Advanced Placement Course. These college level courses are not taught at Skyline, instead the IB program is offered. (See International Baccalaureate entry).

ASB – Associated Student Body. School-run student organization that runs homecoming, dances, spirit weeks, clubs, etc. Click here for more information <http://skylinehighasb.weebly.com/>

BC – Bellevue College, a local community college that students use for Running Start (<https://www.bellevuecollege.edu>)

Board – Board of Directors. Refers to the governing group of organizations, including the PTSA and the Boosters club. Common titles on these boards are President, Vice President (of communications, volunteers, etc.) Secretary, Treasurer, etc. For the PTSA, this consists of both elected positions and appointed positions.

Boosters – The Skyline Booster Club partners with ASB to support SHS students' extra-curricular passions outside the classroom, including sports, clubs, and activities. They fundraise through concessions at sport games and logowear. <https://skylineboosterclub.sportngin.com/>

Canvas – Student and parent portal to classes. <https://issaquah.wednet.edu/district/departments/Technology/canvas>

CWU – Central Washington University

Clubs – Clubs are after-school, extra-curricular activities. They receive funding from ASB and have a teacher sponsor. <https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/skylinehs/student-life/activities/clubs>

Club sports – These are private sport teams coached by professionals, outside of SHS. Typically, you need to try out to make the team and pay a fee, if accepted.

CCC – College and Career Center. Parents and/or students may make an appointment with the SHS staff at the CCC. A wealth of information is on their website <https://sites.google.com/site/skylinehsccc/home>



Acronyms/School Jargon Cont'd...

Certificated – Teachers, counselors, principal, and assistant principals. Certificated staff have an educator’s certificate.

Classified – Non-certificated staff (e.g. Administrative Assistants, Nurses, Janitors etc.)

Committee Chair – Refers to a position in PTSA that heads a committee focusing on one thing, such as college and career or new families.

Council PTSA – District-level PTSA (<https://www.issaquahptsa.org>)

Counseling Department – The SHS Counselors are mental health and also academic counselors. They can change your course schedule, give social and emotional support, and submit the “School Counselor Letter” that is required for college applications. They also handle transcripts, new enrollments, and Running Start. Parents and/or students may make appointments. (<https://sites.google.com/site/spartancounselingcenter/home>)

CTE – Career and Technical Education Courses. Students must complete two semesters of CTE to graduate. (<https://sites.google.com/site/skylinehsccc/academics/dual-credit/tech-prep>)

Freshman – First year students. 9th graders at Skyline High School.

Homecoming – A week-long celebration in the Fall at most US high schools. The two most important events are the Homecoming Football game on Friday night and a Homecoming dance on Saturday night.

Homecoming Week – Week of school spirit activities that culminates in a home football game (Friday) and homecoming dance (Saturday). This is typically in October.

HSBP – High School and Beyond Plan. This is a required plan to graduate, done mostly during school hours. (<https://sites.google.com/site/skylinehsccc/culminating-project>)

SHS – Skyline High School (<https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/skylinehs>)

ISD – Issaquah School District (<https://www.Issaquah.wednet.edu>)

ISF – Issaquah Schools Foundation. A district-wide fundraising group that supports an incredible amount outside of the basic education that the state provides. (<https://isfdn.org>)



Acronyms/School Jargon Cont'd...

IB or International Baccalaureate – This is a college-level program offered at Skyline. There are national exams in May offered for college credit and students can earn an optional IB degree. All 11th and 12th grade students are eligible and encouraged to enroll in IB classes. ([SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL IB Sammamish, WA](#))

JV – Junior Varsity. This is the feeder team to the Varsity Team. Freshmen will typically be on the JV team instead of the varsity team.

Juniors – Third year students. 11th graders at Skyline High School.

LBGTQ+ - Lesbian Bi-Sexual Gay Transgender Queer and Others (Non-Binary, Asexual etc.)

ParentWiser – A district PTSA program that brings national speakers to the Issaquah area for parent education. (<https://www.parentwiser.org/events>)

PE – Physical Education. Students at SHS are required to have 3 semesters of PE to graduate. Sports may count towards partial credit, but you must receive approval ahead of time.

Prom - A formal dance in the Spring for Seniors, although they may invite a student from another grade to attend.

PSAT – Preliminary SAT (Standardized Achievement Test).

PTSA – Parent-Teacher-Student Association.

Recreational Sports – A more casual sports league with lower fees and no try-outs as compared to Club Sports.

Reflections – National PTA Art Contest.

RSVP – Registration Student Verification Process. The high school online fall registration. All students must register even if they already chose classes in the spring.

Running Start – Available program for juniors and seniors (application in sophomore spring). Students may sign up to take classes at Bellevue College or Central Washington University's Sammamish campus, but must provide their own transportation. They can be part or full-time. Grades may not transfer out-of-state to private schools. In-state schools such as UW will accept these courses.



Acronyms/School Jargon Cont'd...

SAT – Standardized Achievement Test. One of the standardized tests for college applications. Typically taken in the winter/spring of the junior year or fall of the senior year. Students sometimes take both the SAT and the ACT and submit the better score to colleges. (<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>)

School Board – A group of elected officials who make decisions regarding the school district such as the budget (how many teachers to hire) or how many courses a high school can offer in a day. The twice monthly meetings are open to the public. The District Superintendent reports to the School Board.

Seniors – Fourth year students. 12th graders in high school.

Sophomores – Second year students. 10th graders in high school.

Skyward – ISD's Family Access portal to student classes and grades. (<https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/family/FamilyAccess>)

STEM – Things relating to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math

Superintendent – The top person in charge of a school district. This person makes recommendations to the School Board (e.g. school start times) and decides things such as when school is called off due to snow.

TOLO – Spring dance run by ASB where the girl asks the guy out. TOLO comes from a Pacific NW Chinook word.

TOSA – Teacher on Special Assignment

UW – University of Washington (<https://www.Washington.edu>). Located in Seattle with satellite campuses in Bothell and Tacoma.

Varsity – The principal school team for a sport. For example, Varsity Football will have the most experienced players on this team.

VIS – Volunteers for Issaquah Schools. Supports bonds and levies (<https://www.visvote.org>)

VP – Vice President

WSU – Washington State University (also goes by the nickname Wazzu)

WWU – Western Washington University (also goes by Western)