

STGRSD ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROCEDURE

The Southwick Tolland Granville Regional School District adheres to all regulations and requirements to consider the assistive technology needs of all children with disabilities (20 U.S.C. 1414(d)(3)(B)(v)). Assistive technology devices and services will be considered in order "to maximize accessibility for children with disabilities." (20 U.S.C. 1400(c)(5)(H)). The Southwick Tolland Granville Regional School District adheres to the Federal Requirements (300.105) and the definitions within the requirements (300.5 & 300.6).

Assistive technology device means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a student with a disability.

Assistive technology service means any service that directly assists a student with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.

In developing each student's IEP, the IEP Team must consider whether the student needs assistive technology devices and services.

- If the IEP Team recommends an assistive technology evaluation, a multidisciplinary team of professionals knowledgeable about assistive technology devices should conduct the assessment with the student and family being included in the evaluation process. The evaluation should take place in the student's customary environment.
- In instances when assistive technology devices and/or services are determined to be required, the Team must further determine and document in which settings (classroom, home or other) the student needs access to those devices and services in order to assure provision of FAPE.

The IEP Team must also consider the communication needs of the student. Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) is a form of assistive technology that can help students with disabilities that impede their ability to communicate to meet their education goals and participate fully alongside their nondisabled peers in all aspects of their education. AAC is considered for those students who cannot communicate effectively through oral speech, including students with autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, congenital disabilities, selective mutism, muscle disease, sensory impairments, and traumatic brain injury.

If after evaluation, it is determined that a student is in need of an Assistive Technology device or services, the district will:

- Purchase, lease, or otherwise provide for the acquisition of assistive technology devices;
- Selecting designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;
- Coordinate and use other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans or programs;
- Train or provide technical assistance for a student with a disability or, if appropriate, that student's family; and
- Train or provide technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing education or rehabilitation services), employers, or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of that student.