

**ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

The School District of Bonduel shall provide special education and **Assistive technology devices and services** and related services designed to meet the unique needs of each student with a disability, based on his/her individualized education program (IEP), as required by law.

Those students having special needs but not requiring a formal IEP according to law, which may include but are not limited to migrant students, homeless students, students living with poverty, and English Language Learners, will also be considered for **assistive technology devices and/or services**.

- "Related services," means transportation and such developmental, corrective and other supportive services as required for the student with a disability to benefit from special education. "Assistive technology devices and services" would clearly be a functional part of the services defined.
- "Assistive technology device" means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of students with special needs.
- "Assistive technology service" means any service that directly assists a student with special needs in the selection, acquisition or use of an assistive technology device. The term includes:
  1. Evaluation of needs of a student with special needs, including a functional evaluation of the child's customary environment;
  2. Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by students with special needs;
  3. Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;
  4. Training or technical assistance for a child with special needs or, if appropriate, that child's family; and

5. Training or technical assistance for professionals, employers, or others who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of students' special needs.

## POLICY PROCEDURE

### Students With an IEP:

- A. A student's need for assistive technology shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. If the IEP team determines that a particular assistive technology item is required for the student to be provided a favorable benefit from his/her education program, the technology must be provided to implement the IEP.
- B. Assistive technology may be provided as special education, related services, or supplemental aids and services for students with disabilities who are educated in regular classes.
- C. The District is responsible for evaluation in areas in which assistive technology may be a factor. Determination of need for assistive technology will be determined by the following criteria:
  1. Identification of difficulty the student is experiencing and discussion of possible causes for the difficulty. This includes a review of existing information and data. During this review the IEP Team decides other information necessary to make an informed decision about the need for assistive technology.
  2. Team members gather baseline data if existing data does not provide all needed information.
  3. The team reviews the problem that is now clearly identified, generates possible solutions, and develops a trial plan of the solutions.
  4. During a specified time frame, the trials are completed and data is collected.
  5. The team analyzes new data and makes decisions about the longer-term use or permanent acquisition of one or more assistive technology tools.
  6. If specific assistive technology is identified as being needed, it is written in the student's IEP.

### Students Without an IEP:

Those students having special needs but not requiring a formal IEP according to law, which may include, but are not limited

to migrant students, homeless students, students living with poverty, and English Language Learners, will also be considered for assistive technology devices and/or services on a case by case basis to be determined by the following criteria:

1. Identification of difficulty the student is experiencing and discussion of possible causes for the difficulty by individuals or a team comprised of classroom or special education teacher, guidance counselor, librarian, district technology coordinator, and/or building principal. This includes a review of existing information and data. During this review a team decides other information necessary to make an informed decision about the necessity for assistive technology.
2. Team members gather baseline data if existing data does not provide all needed information.
3. The team reviews the problem that is now clearly identified, generates possible solutions, and develops a trial plan of the solutions.
4. During a specified time frame, the trials are completed and data is collected.
5. The team analyzes new data and makes decisions about the longer-term use or permanent acquisition of one or assistive technology tools.
6. If specific assistive technology is identified as being needed, a request is made of the Director of Pupil Services for consideration and procurement.

**LEGAL REF.:** 300.308                      Assistive Technology  
                  300.5                        Assistive Technology Device  
                  300.6                        Assistive Technology Service  
                  300.346(a)(2)            Consideration of Special Factors  
                  300.550(b)(2)          Supplementary Aides and Services  
                  20 U.S.C. Chapter 33, Section 1401(25)

**CROSS-REFERENCE:**      Technology Acceptable Use/Internet Safety  
                                  Policy--IIBGA and IIBGB

Policy Adopted:            April 5, 2004  
Policy Revised: