Assistive Technology

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## **Department Overview**

Assistive Technology (AT) Services provides for the educationally-necessary, disability-related technology needs of students with IEPs in accordance with Federal Law. According to the IDEA, an "Assistive Technology Device" is defined as "any item, piece of equipment, or product system....that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability."

Within the context of an educational system, AT can be explained as a part of a "modification and accommodation spectrum" with one end being simple accommodations and modifications and the other end being Assistive Technology. Like any other accommodation or modification, AT is used when more natural accommodations and modifications have not been successful in supporting IEP goals.

## **Performance Measures**

<u>Customer Service</u>: Surveys are provided for parents and IEP team members to provide feedback after each training and after the provision of services. Surveys provide information which drive improvement plans.

<u>Communication</u>: AT Services distributes information, conducts classroom visits, provides trainings for teachers, support staff, related service personnel, and parents, and conducts community outreach (UNLV, NV State, PEP, etc.) to communicate and build relationships with parents, students, administrators, teachers, and families throughout the Clark County School District.

<u>Consistency</u>: Written guidelines, in adherence with Federal law, state requirements, and best practices, are followed when providing technology. The written IEP and IEP team concerns guide the consideration of the need for AT following established guidelines.

## **Department Services**

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- Provides student assessment and training for teachers, parents, and related service providers. Topics include specific technologies, philosophical considerations, classroom implementation, and instruction of protocols.
- Supports the implementation of seven initiatives: Unique Learning System (ULS) for students with intellectual disabilities, Working to Increase Navigation of General Standards (WINGS) for students with learning disabilities, Proloquo2Go for students who are nonfunctional communicators, High Tech for students who use eye- gaze technology, Physically Challenged for students with orthopedic impairments, Functional Communication for students who are building a language system, and Bookshare for students with print disabilities.
- Provides standard packages of technology to specialized programs based on the general needs of the population of students in each program.
- Maintains AT, troubleshoots, and provides technical support for AT users and IEP Teams supporting AT users.

## Service by the Numbers

- 30,000+ pieces of equipment are utilized in classrooms throughout the school district
- 4,000+ software titles are available to assist students' access to educational content
- Support to over 12,000 students who require technology to meet standards in the Least Restrictive Environment
- 3,500+ students in programs for intellectual disabilities or autism access the ULS alternative curriculum
- 1,700+ students in programs for learning disabilities access the WINGS program