**WALWORTH POLICY 363.3**

**TECHNOLOGY CONCERNS FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

POLICY STATEMENT

A. The Walworth Jt School District #1 shall provide special education and related services designed to meet the unique needs of each student with a disability, based on his/her individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Rehabilitation Plan, as required by law. The provision of assistive technology devices and services is limited to those situations in which they are required in order for a student with a disability to receive an appropriate education program.

B. The term “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. An “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 disabilities. “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. The term includes:

1. Evaluation of needs of a student with a disability, 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 disabilities;

1. Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining,

repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;

1. Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive

technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and

rehabilitation plans and programs;

1. Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that

child’s family; and

1. 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 with disabilities.

C. Those students having special needs but not requiring a formal IEP or Section 504 Plan, 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.

 **PROCEDURE**

A. A student’s need for assistive technology shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. If

the IEP or Section 504 team determines that a particular assistive technology item is required for the student to be provided an appropriate or equitable benefit from his/her education program, the technology must be provided to implement the IEP or Section 504 Plan.

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 the 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 or Section 504 Team decides whether other information is 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 or Section 504 Plan.

D. Those students having special needs but who are not eligible for services under the

IDEA or Section 504 and donot require a formal IEP or Section 504 Plan 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 the difficulty the student is experiencing and discussion of possible causes for the difficulty by a team convened by the District Administrator or designee. This includes a review of existing information and data. During this review the team decides whether other information is 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 more assistive technology tools.
6. If specific assistive technology is identified as being needed, a request is made of the District Administrator for consideration.

Walworth Jt. School District #1 does not discriminate on admissions to any school, class, program, or activity on the basis of gender, race, religion, national origin, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, learning, emotional, or mental disability. All discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

**LEGAL REFERENCES:** Chapter 115, subchapter V Wisconsin Statutes

 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997

 Wisconsin Administrative Code PI.9

**POLICY ADOPTED:**  October 17, 2005

**POLICY REVISED:** October 25, 2010, February 27, 2012, August 25, 2014

August 26, 2019