

INSTRUCTION

INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY ACCESS/USE OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

363.1

PURCHASE AND/OR USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT FOR STUDENTS/STAFF WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

- A. The Pittsville School District shall not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities or special needs and will provide such individuals with special education and related services and such reasonable accommodations as may be required under laws such as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (504), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- B. Reasonable accommodations may from time-to-time require the purchase of special equipment. The decision to purchase such equipment which should be based on Individual Educational Plans (IEPs), 504 staffings, recommendations of the school nurse, CESA OT and PT personnel, or recommendations of the administration, including the technology coordinator, shall be made to the supervisor of special education and/or building administrator with the approval of the district administrator or his/her designee. The procedure for acquisition of assistive technology equipment or services is available from the district special education director.
- C. 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. An “assistive technology device” means any item, piece of equipment (such as laptop computers, special audio-visual equipment, special wheel chairs or desks, and/or other capital items for use by students and/or staff), 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 or special need, including a functional evaluation of the child’s customary environment;
 - 2. Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices or services by students with disabilities;

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 a disability 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 with disabilities.
- D. 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 under this policy for assistive technology devices and/or services.
- E. Any assistive technology device if purchased solely by the Pittsville School District are the property of the district and shall remain the property of the district after the student(s) or staff member(s) leaves or no longer requires the equipment.

Legal Reference: *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (504)*
 The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
 The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

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