Assistive Technology Partnership

Paula Gumpman pgumpman@doe.k12.ga.us



Research to Support the Use of Assistive Technology (AT)

- "Accommodations for reading are among the most studied, with evidence showing that text-to-speech or read-aloud can significantly increase both pages read by SWDs and test scores (Calhoun, Fuchs, & Hamlett, 2000; Dolan et al., 2005; Elkind & Elkind, 2002; Fuchs et al., 2000)."
- "Read-aloud and text-to-speech accommodations can help reduce cognitive load by allowing these students to bypass their issues with decoding and focus on reading and processing the texts (Anderson-Inman & Horney, 2007; Dolan et al., 2005; Fuchs and Fuchs, 2001)."



Impact of Assistive Technology (AT)

According to the National Longitudinal Transition Study (NLTS2) - 2012:

Comparing postsecondary outcomes of students with high incidence disabilities who reported receiving assistive technology (AT) in high school to those who reported not receiving AT (305,000 students).

Received Assistive Technology *99.8% Graduate 80.9% Attend Post Secondary

<u>DID NOT</u> Receive Assistive Technology

79.6% Graduate40.1% Attend Post Secondary



Assistive Technology Partnership

To build capacity and have a sustainable impact on Assistive Technology Services for grades K-12 throughout Georgia

- AT/UDL Software Program
- Assistive Technology Lending Library
- Discovery Surveys District Assistive Technology and Accessibility (Instructional Materials)
- EdTrade, Georgia Assistive Technology (AT) School Exchange Database



Assistive Technology (AT) Partnership and the AT Portal

- One stop for access to request services
- Must register and provide contact information and access for designee(s)
- Portal access must be limited to the Director and their designee(s).
- Protect your portal access



AT Partnership – Software

Software requests should be made for <u>district-wide licenses/seats</u> (not schools or classrooms within a district). Please consider which students on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) could benefit and submit <u>one</u> request for licenses/seats for the <u>entire</u> district.

- TextHelp
 - Read & Write
 - Equatio
 - uPar



Benefits of Assistive Technology

- Productivity
- Independence
- Achievement



