Using Browser Extensions

February 11, 2020
3:00pm-3:30pm
Alignment with State Priorities

Georgia’s Systems of Continuous Improvement

Special Education Division Priorities:
IEP Development and Implementation
Non-Endorsement Statement
Georgia Department of Education

The Georgia Department of Education does not endorse any non-Georgia Department of Education websites or products contained within these pages or through external hyperlinks. These webpages and documents provide only a sampling of available resources and in no way should be considered an exhaustive list of available resources. It is at the discretion of individual districts and schools to determine appropriate resources to serve stakeholders.
HOT OFF THE PRESS

Consultative Services

Software

Assistive Technology Lending Library
Assistive Technology (AT) Services, Software, Training and Lending Library Program with Tools for Life, Georgia’s Technology Act Center

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

• January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020
  • Customized Training Videos (3-7 minutes each)
  • Assistive Technology (AT) Consultation Services
  • Assistive Technology Webinar Series
  • AT/UDL Software Pilot Program (Reading, Writing, Math, Study Skills)
  • Assistive Technology Lending Library
  • Discovery Surveys - District Assistive Technology and Accessibility
  • EdTrade, Georgia Assistive Technology (AT) School Exchange Database
Consultative Services

The purpose of this partnership is to support district personnel in building their capacity to support students with assistive technology needs.

What it IS:

• Consultation services by Tools for Life staff via teleconsulting and/or email
• Discussion based on information provided by district contact
• Coaching support for staff on implementation of evidence-based practices for assistive technology

What it is NOT:

• Direct student intervention
• Assistive technology evaluations
• Onsite consultations or evaluations
• Supplier of assistive technology devices beyond short loan
Software

• TextHelp
  • Read&Write
  • EquatIO
  • WriQ

Software requests are made by the Special Education Director or their designee(s). These software requests should be made for *district-wide licenses/seats* (not schools or classrooms within a district). Please consider which students on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) could benefit and submit *one* request for licenses/seats for the *entire* district.
"Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

Barack Obama

"SUCCESS SEEMS TO BE CONNECTED WITH ACTION. SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE KEEP MOVING, THEY MAKE MISTAKES, BUT THEY DON’T QUIT."

-- CONRAD HILTON

Don’t let what you can’t do stop you from doing what you can do.

John Wooden

Don’t just stand there; make something happen.

Lee Iacocca

INTERDEPENDENT PEOPLE COMBINE THEIR OWN EFFORTS WITH THE EFFORTS OF OTHERS TO ACHIEVE THEIR GREATEST SUCCESS.

- Stephen Covey -
We Should be Reducing Barriers to Learning

What can we provide for the student, so they are challenged and supported?

Student (ability and needs)

When the barrier is known, we can be flexible in the method to achieve the learning goal.

The Barrier

Student Outcomes

“I learned that …….”
“The Google Chrome browser, widely available on computers today, has a variety of free and low-cost apps and extensions that can benefit all students in inclusive classroom settings. Using apps and extensions readily available for the Google Chrome browser, teachers have access to assistive tools that can be useful learning supports for students with and without disabilities. There are apps and extensions available to support literacy, mathematics, and organizational skills. Using these tools, teachers can provide multiple means of representation, expression, and engagement in alignment with Universal Design for Learning guidelines.”

Journal of Special Education Technology – September 2019
“Digital Tools for the Inclusive Classroom: Google Chrome as Assistive and Instructional Technology”
What is an Extension?

Extensions are small software programs that customize the browsing experience. They enable users to tailor Chrome functionality and behavior to individual needs or preferences. Browsers typically allow a variety of extensions, including user interface modifications, ad blocking, and cookie management.
Almost all popular browsers support extensions — you can find them for Chrome and Chromium, Safari, Opera, Internet Explorer, and Edge. They are widely available and some of them are quite helpful, so a lot of people end up using at least several extensions, and sometimes their number on one PC extends to several dozen.
Why should we be aware of Extensions?

They enable users to tailor browser functionality and behavior to individual needs or preferences.

Extensions can range from a simple icon, such as the Google Mail Checker extension shown on below, to overriding an entire page.
Can an extension help my student write better?

Grammarly is like the amped up version of Word's spell check. Unlike spell check, it can be used anywhere that you write on the web. Not only does it check for grammar errors, it also checks for context accuracy to be sure you are not using correctly spelled words in the wrong context (so say goodbye to all of those there/they’re/their or to/too/two mix-ups).

WriQ by TextHelp gives students:
- The ability visualize their writing progress in real-time
- The ability to access positive, immediate feedback on their own writing, without relying on teacher intervention
- Speeding up the feedback loop - get a picture of their most frequently used words and how they’re writing for specific subject areas
- The ability to track their own writing progress daily, weekly, or monthly and work towards goals and achievement badges, adding a fun element to the writing process
Can an extension help my student write better?

Co:Writer Universal is a great tool for students who struggle with writing. Using a word prediction tool, it will suggest possible word choices as students type. In addition to helping students with word choice, it will also spell check for them as they type.

Cite This For Me is a big help when writing papers that need to be cited (especially research papers). Students will often under cite, and this extension helps students in knowing not only WHEN to give proper credit, but HOW to give proper credit. Even as a college student, learning the various citation methods can be confusing. That’s where Cite This For Me comes in handy. Students can use it to create complete and accurate citations in APA, MLA 8, Chicago, and Harvard reference styles with one click. You can even create an online bibliography for later reference.
Some Other Writing Extensions

- Storybird
- Mind Mapping
- Mercury Reader
Can an extension help my student read online?

- Read&Write for Google Chrome
- Snap&Read Universal
- SpeakIt
- Learning Ally Link - audiobook reader
- Read Mode
How to add an extension in Chrome

1. Open the **Chrome** Web Store.
2. Find and select the **extension** you want.
3. Click **Add to Chrome**.

Some extensions will let you know if they need certain permissions or data. To approve, click **Add extension**.
Open Google Chrome

Show My Google Chrome Browser
“What are some of the barriers that teachers and/or students face when using technology in the classroom?

Please make a comment in GoToWebinar “Questions Section” of the user panel.
Supports Differentiation

Differentiation means tailoring instruction to meet individual needs. Whether teachers differentiate content, process, products, or the learning environment, the use of ongoing assessment and flexible grouping makes this a successful approach to instruction.

What does the student need to have access to the content and to be able to show what they have learned?
Top 10 Assistive Technology Supports for Every Classroom

• Using the technology/AT that is currently in the classroom
• Text to Speech (TTS)
• Audiobooks and/or Digital Books
• Speech to Text (Dictation)
• Built in Accessibility Options
  • PC - Ease of Access
  • Mac Book - Accessibility Options
  • Mobile Devices – Accessibility Options
• Graphic Organizers
• Using Extensions and/or Add-ons with internet browsers
• Mobile Devices
• Visual Supports (classroom and/or behavior management)
• Closed Captioning
Contact Information

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Services and Supports

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