

Take a Minute for AT and AEM

August 2023

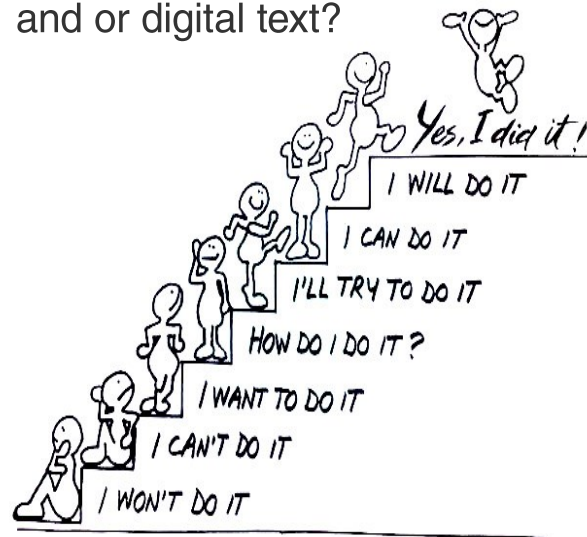


What is “Take a Minute”?

- “Take a Minute” is a simple initiative to support IEP teams when discussing assistive technology (AT), and accessible educational materials (AEM) during IEP meetings.
- The goal of “Take a Minute” is for IEP teams to briefly discuss or “Take a Minute” in the Special Factors section to talk about a student’s need for (AT) and/or (AEM).

Questions for the IEP Team

1. Were there issues in present levels that address how your student’s disability affects his or her ability to be involved and progress in the general education curriculum related to reading, writing, communication, or any other areas?
2. Will AT support the deficit areas addressed in the present levels?
3. Can AEM (braille, larger print, audio or digital text) provide access so the student can better comprehend print and or digital text?



Notes:

It’s OK not to know all the answers during the IEP meeting. Document the discussion and select team members to investigate the answers and schedule a follow-up meeting.

**Wear your “Take a Minute” badge** to promote AT and AEM to your coworkers, friends, and anyone with a student with a disability.

## AT for Students

Many students with disabilities use AT to enhance participation and achievement in their educational programs. Technology that exists in everyday classrooms that can be used by all is sometimes essential for some.

Below are some examples of AT that are available to support access to the curriculum.

(Some Examples - Not ALL inclusive)

Reading	
Apple	OS Accessibility features
Bookshare	Web Reader
Google	Text to Speech extensions
Microsoft	Immersive Reader
Read & Write	Hover Speech, Play Selection
Snap and Read	OCR text
Writing	
Apple	Dictation
Co-Writer	Word Prediction
Google	Voice Typing
Microsoft	Dictation
Read & Write	Talk and Type
Spelling	
Apple	Spelling and Grammar Check
Co-Writer	Word Prediction
Google	Spelling and Grammar check
Microsoft	Editor
Read & Write	Check It

## AEM for Students

Reading standard print is a barrier for some to participate fully in their educational experience. Students who are blind, have a visual impairment or other print disability, and those who are physically disabled may benefit from AEM.

AT and AEM are closely related and in some cases even dependent on one another. Below is a chart showing the relationship between AT and different formats of AEM.

	Accessible Format	AT (required)
Braille		
Refreshable	Yes	Yes
Embossed	Yes	No
Large and Enlarged Print		
Magnification	No	Yes
Hard Copy	Yes	No
Electronic	Yes	Yes
Audio		
Electronic	Yes	Yes
Human Reader	Yes	No
Digital Text (Other Forms)		
	Yes	Yes

Remember to think about the **Built in Accessibility Features** in the hardware and software that is currently being used in the district.