

# Assistive and Instructional Technology

## **Why**

We believe technology transforms the way we teach and how students learn. It allows child with special needs to reach their potential and exceed. Technology gives a child a voice, fosters independence, and allows students to succeed in their school, home, and community environments. When we use technology effectively it opens doors for students that otherwise may be closed.

Technology in NSSEO includes instructional technology, assistive technology and informational technology. These branches work together to provide services to students and staff to foster improved outcomes for students.

## **Focus**

NSSEO technology includes Instructional technology, Assistive Technology and Informational Technology

The focus of the Instructional Technology Department is to utilize technology to support curriculum, instruction and assessment. By providing 21st century tools, such as iPads, SmartBoards, response systems, digital cameras, laptops, multimedia and online learning, it enables teachers to engage students, differentiate learning, and improve student outcomes. Professional Development, coaching and consultation provides support to schools and classroom teams to maximize student learning.

The focus of the Assistive Technology Department is to help teams in the consideration, acquisition, implementation and effective monitoring of assistive technology. This is done through the use of trials of both low tech and high tech tools to provide augmentative and /or alternative communication and individualized supports to help students' access curriculum and achieve success in their educational program.

The Technology Department provides a robust network of wired and wireless devices, telecommunications and the infrastructure necessary to support administrative, instructional and assistive technologies. It provides the tools necessary for student learning and for staff to do their jobs effectively.

## **Who We Are**

Our technology team consists of highly qualified special education teachers, speech and language pathologists, program assistants, network administrator, database manager, building level technicians and technology liaisons.

Our instructional and assistive technology team members keep abreast of current knowledge and skills in the field by attending and presenting at local, state and national conferences on educational and assistive technology.

## **Services**

- Loan library adaptive equipment, software, and curriculum materials
- Technology classes and workshops
- Consultations
- Coaching
- Assistive Technology Evaluations
- Modification of materials
- Resources