

SECTION 291 ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS)

The Portage Community School District recognizes that educational technology is a valued resource for all students and teachers in the implementation of the District curriculum. The District is committed to providing the appropriate hardware, software, staff development, and support to make this possible. The District will make available assistive technology devices or assistive technology services, or both, to a child with a disability if required as part of the child's special education, related services, or supplementary aids and services plan. If a child's individualized education program team determines that access to and use of assistive technology devices or services during the regular school day, in the child's home, or in other settings are necessary for the child to receive a free appropriate public education, the devices or services will be made available without additional charges or fees to the student by the district.

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. The successful utilization of these technologies requires the responsibility of each staff member and student to use these tools for the express purpose of learning within the context of District curricula. Assistive technology devices and services will be reviewed annually to determine the need to update, maintain, or replace devices.

1st Reading – December 12, 2005

2nd Reading – January 9, 2006

Approved – January 9, 2006