DISABILITY EDUCATION OFFICE

Tech Tuesday

Reading and Writing

- Adobe Acrobat Reader - Free software you can use to read and access the information contained within PDF files. Adobe contains many capabilities specifically designed to make it easier to read PDF files.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store - Free
        - Apple Store - Free
        - Google Chrome Extension - Free

- Beeline Reader – Suffering from screen fatigue? Beeline Reader makes reading on a screen easier, faster, and more enjoyable. Using simple cognitive tricks – an eye guiding color gradient – to pull your eyes through long blocks of text. This helps you read more effectively and maintain your focus.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free, Premium $2.99/month, $29.99/year
        - Apple Store – $1.99 In-App Purchase
        - Google Chrome Extension – Free
        - PDF – $4.99/month

- Dolphin EasyReader – Accessible reading app for readers. Browse & download from the World's largest collection of talking books and newspaper libraries. Or copy text from anywhere on your phone & hear EasyReader read it back to you. Experience perfectly synchronized text & audio. Or for text only titles, EasyReader can add a human-sounding voice of your choice. Boost comfort or contrast - choose colors, text size, and highlights to suit your visual needs.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free
        - Apple Store – Free

- Mercury Reader - Removes ads and distractions, leaving only text and images for a clean and consistent reading view on every site.
    - Link and Cost:
        - Google Chrome Extension – Free

Reading and Writing

- ReadAloud – Tired of sitting, tired of reading? Click a button, jump on your bed, and have the article read aloud to you. You can choose from many available male and female voices. You can also set the pitch of the voice and the reading speed. Supports PDF's.
    - Link and Cost:
        - Google Chrome Extension – Free

- Speech Central – The widest selection of tools to control the speed and position of how the text is read aloud.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free with in-app purchase
        - Apple Store – Free with in-app purchase

- Speechify - Listen to the internet with Speechify. Just click the "Play" button in the bottom right of your web article and enjoy a magical experience. Using Speechify when reading increases retention and comprehension by using two senses at the same time to intake information. It also lets you read faster AND makes it much more difficult to get distracted while you read/listen (since when there is a voice speaking it's hard to lose your spot).
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free
        - Apple Play Store – Free
        - Google Chrome Extension – Free
- Spreed - Spreed uses a technique called rapid serial visual presentation, or RSVP, to help you read text faster. By presenting text this way, you reduce sub-vocalization ("sounding the words" out), unconscious re-reading, and eliminate eye movements, which are the main things holding back your reading speed.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Apple Store – Free with in-app purchases
        - Google Chrome Extension – Free

- Spritz - Spritz scans the written content of any website (including your favorite news sites) and visually reads it back to you at up to 700 words per minute. The patented rapid-fire, single word display feature is fully adjustable so you can begin training your brain to read up to 2x faster. Spritz helps busy professionals, avid readers, and students alike to consume digital content more efficiently. It improves reading speed, comprehension, and retention. By streaming individual words through an isolated display window, Spritz minimized eye movement, and fatigue.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free
        - Apple Store – Free

Reading and Writing

- VitalSource - Get instant access to your eTextbooks and a full suite of study tools on any device—both online and offline.
    - Link and Cost:
        - VitalSource Website – Price Varies

- American Wordspeller - American Wordspeller & Phonetic Dictionary "Find Your Word, By the Way, it Sounds" This dictionary app is designed to locate misspelled words. Type in 2-3 letters of your word by "how it sounds to you". Spell it just how it SOUNDS to you. NO spelling RULES required.
    - Link and Cost:
        - Apple Store – $2.99

- Fleksy - Beautifully designed & highly customizable, Fleksy lets you type at unparalleled speed in total privacy.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free with in-app purchases
        - Apple Store – Free with in-app purchases

- Grammarly - Take the guesswork out of great writing. Check your emails, documents, essays, and more. Take the guesswork out of writing great emails, documents, and posts.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – Free, Premium Available
        - Apple Store – Free, Premium Available
        - Browser Extension – Free, Premium Available

- Voice Dream Writer - Voice Dream Writer can give you voice feedback as you type. At the end of a word, the Writer will speak the word you just entered, and after finishing a sentence by entering a period, question mark, etc., the Writer will speak the entire sentence. If you use dictation, you'll hear the entire text you dictated when you are done. You have the option to turn this off from the Audio Settings menu. Sentence and dictation read-back use the current Proofreading style. See the Proofreading section later for details.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Apple Store – $5.99
        - Website

Reading and Writing

- Word Bank Universal - Create and use word banks for writing, vocabulary, spelling, comprehension, and recall. Click to insert and speak on hover built-in. Word Bank Universal puts the creation and use of a word bank right at your fingertips. Word banks provide core vocabulary that can be used for vocabulary development, spelling support, to gain the gist of an article, aide in recalling previously learned words, and can be used to help support writing. Word Bank also summarizes and extracts important people, places, a timeline, and numbers from web pages.
    - Link and Cost:
        - Google Chrome Extension – Free

- Writing Challenge - The Writing Challenge generator will provide thousands of different combinations to get your writing started. You just have to open your notebook or favorite word processor, press the 'Start' button, and let Writing Challenge inspire you.
    - Links and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – $1.49
        - Apple Store – $1.99
        - Mac – $3.99
        - Kindle – $1.99

- Writing Prompts - Writing.Com presents "Writing Prompts", the Android app with an endless supply of creative inspiration! Our prompt generators use scene elements, words, sketches, colors, genres, and writing types, unleashing endless random bits of fantasy to fuel your muse. Plus, we've included our database of 600 creative writing prompts so you've got them right at your fingertips, online or off!
    - Link and Cost:
        - Google Play Store – $1.99