



# Assistive Technology for Individuals with Disabilities

Board of Regents  
February 9, 2015



# Assistive Technology

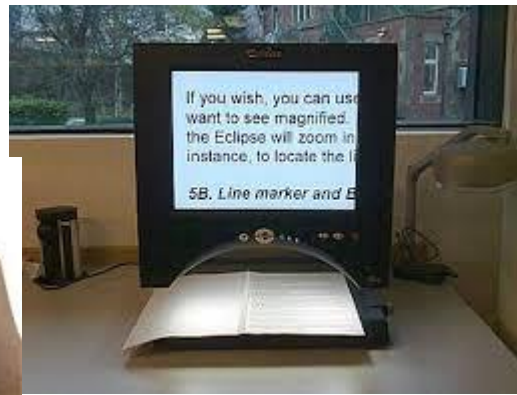


## Device

- helps a person with a disability complete an everyday task, increase independence and/or enhance quality of life.

## Service

- assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.



# Federal and State Policy

- **Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act**
- **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**
- **Rehabilitation Act**
- **Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act, 2014**
- **National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped**
- **Individualized Education Program**
- **Transfer policy**
- **Individualized Plan for Employment**
- **Three ACCES-VR policies**
  - Rehabilitation Technology Policy
  - Home Modification, Adaptive and Household Equipment Policy
  - Vehicle Modifications, Adaptive and Automotive Equipment Policy
- **State law for Accessible Instructional Materials**

# Needs and Concerns

- Growing availability and importance of “state-of-the-art” assistive technology
- Statewide equity of access to technology in schools, colleges and work settings
- Professional development
- Funding
- Coordination with respect to transitions

# Panel on Assistive Technology

- **Peggy O'Connor**, Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education, Hamilton Central School District
- **Dennis Roy**, Director of Technology and Innovation, Hamilton Central School District
- **Tamara Mariotti**, Coordinator for Disability Services at Mohawk Valley Community College.
- **Matthew Donato**, Student, Mohawk Valley Community College





# Next Steps

**1. Identify issues impacting availability**

**2. Increase awareness of existing services**

**3. Statewide survey**

**4. Enhance existing technical assistance and support resources**

**5. Update policy guidance for schools**

**6. Smart Schools Bond Act Funds - in support of assistive technology purchases**