Assistive Technology - Frequently Asked Questions

Can my student bring their own device to school?
Yes, students may bring personal devices (laptop, iPad, iPod etc.) to school to complete typical classroom assignments, such as writing essays or taking notes. Students are responsible for their own equipment. Students are required to follow building policies surrounding appropriate use of such devices.

Can the school provide software for a student's personal device?
No, district policy prohibits loading district-owned software on a personal device.

Can a personal device brought to school have internet access?
Yes, the district has a guest wireless network that a personal device can join. Once joined to this network, the device has filtered internet access.

Can a personal device print to a school printer?
No, only a district-owned device can print to a printer.

Can my student use an alternative curriculum support to complete assignments if parent-purchased?
Students are responsible for completing assignments in accordance with classroom expectations, common core standards and district guidelines. Therefore, all other supports (iOS apps, tutoring software programs etc.) are encouraged only as an extra tool for home use.

Do assistive technology tools replace traditional teaching strategies and skill-based learning?
No, students continue learning fundamental skills (reading, writing etc.) at their level. Assistive technology supports are utilized to provide access to higher level curriculum and content, as well as teach life-long strategies for interaction with society. Each student using AT has a program which is individually designed to integrate all supports and skill development strategies

Is the latest piece of technology the best for students using AT?
Students are individuals. Tools and devices need to match to the student's skills and weaknesses. Devices are not "one size fits all"; and therefore, do not address every student's needs. Assessments are given with the student's educational success in mind, not a specific tool.

What can I do to support technology and assistive technology integration?
Parents are their child's best advocate. Work collaboratively with your student's educational team to integrate technology and explore the need for assistive technology as necessary. You are vital in the process of teaching basic technology skills (keyboarding, word processing, email etc.).