

January 2002

Issue I  
Volume II



## AFFORDABLE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS FOR THE CLASSROOM

More and more students with disabilities are being included in the regular education classroom. More often than not these students are placed (sometimes with and sometimes without proper supports) into the regular classroom and can have difficulty becoming functioning members of the classroom.

When many people think of technology they think of high costs. However, technology does not have to be costly. There are a few low-tech, low-cost ways that parents and teachers can provide the supports a student needs. Some of the following suggestions can also be used with students in the classroom.

### If the student needs help taking notes:

- **Pre-made Outlines:** A pre-made outline can reduce the amount of writing required by the student, which can reduce fatigue, and can keep the student focused.
- **Recording of Classroom Notes:** A basic digital recorder can record up to 5 hours of information. Important information can be marked for instant retrieval and stored on a computer to be listened to later.

### If the student needs help with reading:

- **Highlighting text:** Highlighting text helps students determine what is important from what is just supportive material. Red highlight is often the easiest to see.
- **Magnifying text:** Magnification can be achieved by increasing the font size on the student's handouts and by using plastic full-page magnifiers.

There are many more assistive technology solutions available at low-costs. For an expanded list of these, please visit the "Educating for Success" web site. Log on to [www.cpodnj.org](http://www.cpodnj.org) and follow the link. *For more information on our assistive technology services, please contact Fred Tchang by phone at (888) 322-1918 or via email at [ftchang@cpofnj.org](mailto:ftchang@cpofnj.org).*

"Educating for Success" is available in alternative formats.

Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey is



Accredited in  
Community Employment Services

Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey has been recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education as a "Registered New Jersey Professional Development Provider."

AGENCY  
NEWS



## ADVOCATE ADDED TO WARREN COUNTY OFFICE

CP of New Jersey added a new Advocate/Case Manager to its expanding Hackettstown and Little Falls offices. Sheridan Lorraine will provide assistance to students/adults with disabilities and their families to help them gain access to appropriate and needed services. She will speak to a variety of family and community groups, including parents, schools and community agencies. To find out more about Advocacy or Case Management, contact Debbie Maslansky at (888) 322-1918, extension 518.

UPCOMING  
TRAININGS



January 23  
9 AM - 3 PM

*Assistive Technology as a Tool for Teachers:  
Finding Ideas and Supports on the Web*  
Training at Middlesex County ETTC\*

February 5  
9 AM - 3 PM

*SPE/SNJ: Assistive Technology & the IEP*  
Training at Burlington County ETTC\*

February 20 and May 17  
9 AM - 3 PM

*SPE/SNJ: Voice Recognition Software - Yes?  
No? Maybe?*

Training at Burlington County ETTC\*

For more information, contact Fred Tchang at  
(888) 322-1918 Extension 588 or call the county ETTC.  
\*ETTC Stands for Educational Technology Training Center



**WE'RE HERE TO HELP.  
CALL US FOR ASSISTANCE  
IN THESE AREAS:**

- IEP Assistance
- Transition Planning
- Assistive Technology for Education
- Augmentative Communication
- Positive Behavioral Support
- Family Support
- Work Based Learning
- School to Work Support
- Job Accommodations
- Substance Abuse Prevention Education

CALL US TODAY AT (888) 322-1918  
 OR EMAIL US AT [INFO@CPOFNJ.ORG](mailto:INFO@CPOFNJ.ORG).  
 WE CAN HELP YOU EDUCATE STUDENTS  
 WITH DISABILITIES.  
[WWW.CPOFNJ.ORG](http://WWW.CPOFNJ.ORG)



**Q.** What special types of considerations should educators and parents be aware of as it relates to the abuse of prescription drugs?

**A.** Children who have a physical, neurological or developmental disability may take multiple medications. They need to be especially aware of the importance of taking their medications as prescribed, and the dangers of sharing their medications with friends, the possibility of accidental overdose, addiction, the reasons why alcohol used in combination with medication can have serious implications, and side effects from drug combining. Some medications lose their therapeutic effects in combination with alcohol and some become more potent. Students with disabilities are at higher risk for substance abuse.

**Q.** What does Extended School Year (ESY) mean, and who must be considered for the services?

**A.** According to the New Jersey Department of Education, the term "extended school year" services means educational programming beyond the school year for eligible students with disabilities as outlined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The Department of Education stipulates that every student with a disability should be *considered* for ESY services. The determination of a student's *eligibility* for ESY is done on an individual basis by the student's IEP team and *must* be discussed at each annual review of the IEP plan. Look for a feature story on ESY next month in "Educating for Success."

## Need more information on our services? Want to sign up for "Educating for Success?"

Fill out the form below and fax, email or mail it back to the editor: Christopher Hazlett.

Fax : (609) 392-3505 Email: [chazlett@cpofnj.org](mailto:chazlett@cpofnj.org)

Address: CP of New Jersey's "Educating for Success" 354 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to sign up for a free subscription to "Educating for Success"

I want more information on: \_\_\_\_\_

I have a question I want addressed in "Educating for Success:" \_\_\_\_\_

I would like training on: \_\_\_\_\_