



AAC Device Access *Parent Quick Guide*

WHAT TO SAY IF THE SCHOOL SAYS “NO”

- This device is my child’s voice
- IDEA and Section 504 allow my child to use any assistive tech needed to access education, whether school-owned or personal.
- Let’s write into the IEP that my student has the option to use their own AAC device.
- Can you provide that policy in writing?
- If you are refusing, please provide a Prior Written Notice (PWN) explaining why.

GET IT IN WRITING IN THE IEP

Assistive Tech

(Child’s Name) has the option to use their personal AAC device across all school activities and settings.



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YOUR CHILD'S RIGHT TO THEIR VOICE



IDEA

Assistive tech is any device that helps a child improve functional capabilities (20 U.S.C. 1401) It does not have to be school owned.



34 C.F.R. 300.105

AT must be available in all settings if needed for FAPE.



CONSISTENCY IS KEY

*Using the same device at home and school supports progress and prevents regression

REMEMBER

- Ask For Written Policy - "Please send me the written district/AEA policy."
- Request Prior Written Notice - Must explain refusal and legal basis.
- Document Everything - Follow up in email summarizing your request.
- Get it in the IEP - Under Assistive Technology and Supplementary Aids & Services.

Sample Follow-Up Email:

I'm following up on our discussion about (Child's Name) using their personal AAC device at school. Under IDEA and Section 504, my child is entitled to the assistive technology necessary for communication and access to education, regardless of ownership.

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Schie, M., Beas, A., Bolnick, J., Paden-Cargill, L., & Lyle, S. (2012). The influence of classroom context on AAC device use for non-speaking low school-aged autistic children. *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 24(1), 1-11.
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