

NIMAS and AIM

Alaska Center For Accessible Media



National Instructional Materials Standard (NIMAS)

- NIMAS Statute and Regs – IDEA 2004
- Effective July 2005
- NIMAS Final Rules published 2006
- Places expectations on publishers of materials published after August 2006.

Source: Skip Stahl, cast.org

http://www.nasta.org/presentations2/Nimas_Overview_NASTA_2_07.ppt



NIMAS Designed to

- Provide a timely delivery of specialized formats
- Avoid a duplication of effort (scanning and OCR)
- Standardize across states
- Improve student outcomes



NIMAS Files

- Based on the international DAISY standard for electronic text
- Consistent and valid XML-based source files created by publishers
- Files are used to create accessible specialized formats (eg, braille, audio, digital talking books, large print, etc.)



The NIMAC?

- Established through the American Printing House for the Blind (APH)
- Receives and maintains a catalog of NIMAS print instructional materials
- Provides those materials in accessible media source files
- Has procedures to protect against copyright infringement



Who Qualifies?

1. Blind persons with visual acuity of 20/200 or less.
2. Persons visual disability is certified by competent authority as preventing the reading of standard printed material.
3. Persons certified by competent authority as unable to read or unable to use standard printed material as a result of physical limitations.
4. Persons certified by competent authority as having a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction



NIMAS in AK

- DEED and Districts Establish
 - procedures to ensure the timely delivery of specialized versions to students with print disabilities.
 - coordination between State Office of Special Education and the State Assistive Technology Program(s)
 - Districts include NIMAS requirements in purchase orders for textbooks
 - authorized users to obtain NIMAS file sets from the NIMAC for the District, by written request



SESA & AK-CAM

- Before Requesting a Book from Us:

- Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

- <http://www.rfbd.org>



- American Printing House for the Blind

- <http://aph.org>



- Bookshare

- <http://www.bookshare.org/>



- Talking Book Center

- <http://www.library.state.ak.us/dev/tbc.html>



SESA & AK-CAM

- How to request a NIMAS textbook
 - Forms to fill out
 - <http://akaccessiblemedia.org/get-instructional-print-materials/>
 - **Eligibility** – District Responsibility, file stays in student record, copy to SESA
 - **Media Request Form** – Fill out, include a scan or picture of textbook title page, front and back
 - Who to send to?
 - Anne Freitag, SESA's Authorized User
 - afreitag@sesa.org



Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM)

- AIM are specialized formats of fully accessible textbooks and other curriculum materials that can be used by and with students who are struggling readers or otherwise unable to access printed text.

Source:

<http://www.cenmi.org/Documents/FocusonResults/FocusonResultsDetails/tabid/79/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/328/Students-Can-Benefit-From-Accessible-Instructional-Materials-AIM.aspx>



Fully Accessible Means

- All text is digital and can be read with Text to Speech tools, modified (font size) and navigated by unit, chapter, section, and page number
- Images include alt and descriptive text
- Math equations are provided as images with alt text or as MathML
- Text can be converted to Braille



Final Thoughts

- We need to expand the availability of AIM to increase the success of all students
- NIMAS is only a start
- Publishers like Pearson are leading the way with fully accessible textbooks on CDs available to all
- Software and Hardware is becoming more consumer-level; more students and families will expect AIM



Accessible Instructional Materials

- Braille
 - Hard Copy and Refreshable Braille systems
- Audio
 - Mp3, .wav, .aiff, etc
- Digital Text
 - DAISY Talking Books, eBooks, ePub, HTML, XML
- Large Print
 - Generally considered Hard Copy, but could include enlarged text on computer screens

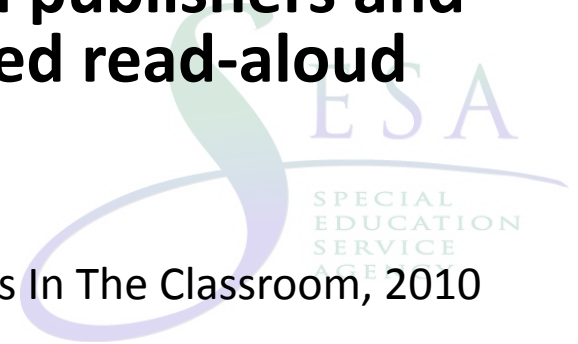


Digital Text

- **Supported Reading Software - products that read digital text aloud using computer-generated synthetic voices**
- **Digital Talking Books - Digital text that conforms to the DAISY Standard**
 - is a multimedia format that combines easy navigation (section, chapter, heading, page, etc.) with support for synthetic speech and/or recorded human voice.
- **Commercial Digital Text (e-books) A number of commercial electronic book products from elementary and secondary curriculum publishers and other sources may also offer embedded read-aloud functionality.**

Source:

Skip Stahl, Accessible Textbooks In The Classroom, 2010



Supported Reading Software

- Kurzweil 1000 & 3000,
- Read and Write Gold,
- ReadOutLoud BookShare Edition,
- Microsoft Reader
- Mozilla Firefox with ClickSpeak,
- Microsoft Word with Macros,
- Apple iBooks,
- Text Edit
- Wynn
- Don Johnson Solo
- Ghost Reader
- TextSpeech Pro
- PDF Equalizer
- NaturalReader
- ReadPlease 2003

Source:

http://www.cast.org/publications/conferences/Supported_Reading_Software2009.doc



Digital Talking Books

Software

- Victor Reader Soft
- READ:OutLoud
- OpenBook
- Kurzweil
 - 1000 & 3000
- ghPlayer
- Wynn
- OpenBook

Hardware

- Victor Reader / Stream
- Braille +
- BookCourier
- BookPort
- Classmate Reader

Source:

<http://www.bookshare.org/readingTools>



Commercial eBooks, Audio Books

- Public Library – eBooks and audio books for free
 - <http://listenalaska.lib.overdrive.com/>
- Apple, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Sony Devices
 - iPad, Kindle, Nook, eReader
- Project Gutenberg
 - <http://www.gutenberg.org/>



Choosing Solutions

- If you have a student who would benefit from accessible instructional materials, you have a wealth of content, hardware and software to choose from
- Always choose less proprietary, more available to the general public types of solutions, where possible

