

OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: First Review of New Board of Education Policy #3000.1: Website Accessibility

DATE: September 18, 2017

REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

The Board of Education must approve all new Board of Education policies.

REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

The District is committed to making information on its website accessible to all online visitors, including those individuals with hearing, vision, or cognitive disabilities, so that they have equal opportunity to obtain the same results, gain the same benefits, and reach the same levels of achievement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action necessary – First Review of New Board of Education Policy #3000.1: Website Accessibility

APPROVED FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD:


Superintendent

TMV/alf
Attachment

SUBJECT: WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY

The District is committed to making information on its website accessible to all online visitors, including those individuals with hearing, vision, or cognitive disabilities, so that they have equal opportunity to obtain the same results, gain the same benefits, and reach the same levels of achievement.

The District has undertaken good-faith efforts to ensure that its website complies with the current New York State standards on website accessibility, which include conducting a regular and thorough audit of online content and functionality. The District will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that all new, newly added, or modified online content and functionality will be accessible to people with disabilities.

The District will consider the educational opportunities and benefits it provides through technology, how its technology provides these opportunities and benefits, whether the technology exists in a format that is accessible to individuals with disabilities, whether the technology can be modified, and the availability of a different technological device in making decisions that may affect access to its website. The District may address specific pages, information formats, or features; it may expressly identify the pages or information that may be deciphered by screen readers; and it may specify any readers that may need downloading on its website. Moreover, the District may provide links to information or features on its website to further assist users.

Access Notice

The District will post a notice on its website about how users may request access to information that they believe is not currently accessible. The District may request that users provide their name, email address, phone number, a description of the problem they experienced, and the location of the information they tried to access. The District will make all reasonable efforts to provide inaccessible information in an alternative format.

Accessibility Contact Person

The District will designate a person whom website users may contact if they experience accessibility issues. The District will post contact information and specify how to contact this person on its website home page.

Exemptions

The District may conclude that features, programs, applications, or activities on its website are not accessible if making them accessible would cause them to be fundamentally altered, or when ensuring accessibility would result in an undue financial and administrative burden. The District will maintain all documents supporting its exemption determinations as required by law.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY (Cont'd.)

Training

The District will provide website accessibility training as necessary to appropriate personnel, including any website content developers, webmasters, and procurement officials, and all others who develop, load, maintain, or audit its web content or functionality.

Third-Party Sites

Any links to third-party sites on the District's website are not under its control, and thus, the District is not responsible for the content or accessibility of third-party sites. Third-party sites may not comply with accessibility standards.

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 USC § 794(d)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 USC § 794

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC § 12101, et seq.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 USC § 1400, et seq.

28 CFR Part 35

34 CFR Parts 104 and 300

New York State Information Technology Policy No. NYS-P08-005

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3420 -- Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the District
#8130 -- Equal Educational Opportunities

SUBJECT: WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

Key Definitions

- 1) **Web-based information or application:** any information or application that is accessed via a web browser over a network. It also means an application that is hosted in a browser-controlled environment or coded in a browser-supported language combined with a browser-rendered markup language and reliant on a common web browser to execute the application.
- 2) **Fundamental alteration:** a significant modification of the critical function or nature of a feature, program, application, or activity.
- 3) **Undue financial or administrative burden:** significant difficulty or expense after considering all resources available for funding and operating the feature, program, application, or activity.

Website Accessibility Compliance

To help ensure compliance, the District will:

- 1) Designate an individual whom users can contact directly and immediately with any accessibility issues related to the District's website. The District will post the contact information for this individual on its website;
- 2) Clearly post a link on the District website home page for users to contact the District about accessibility of web-based information or applications the District controls;
- 3) At least annually, test the District's Internet information, intranet information, and applications for compliance and validation. The District will be able to describe specific actions taken for verification and for expanding its testing program;
- 4) Identify any significant deficiencies revealed during testing. The District will outline actions taken or planned to eliminate these deficiencies;
- 5) Document any complaints the District receives regarding accessibility as well as its responses. The District will identify any non-compliance that is due to undue financial or administrative burden or due to fundamental alteration in the feature, program, application, or activity;
- 6) Include accessibility requirements and analyses as part of the District's acquisition procedures;
- 7) To the extent practicable, review future website content accessibility for compliance before placing it on the District website; and
- 8) Provide regular training for all employees responsible for creating, posting, or distributing information on its website.