



Alt+Shift partners with ISDs to build the knowledge, skills, and systems educators need to see, and act on, every learner's capacity. Lasting change lives in systems, not in training alone, so we stay engaged over time, embedding new practice into structures that can carry it forward long after we're gone.



Building Blocks to Autonomous Communication

All learners have the right to communicate

Learners cannot access instruction without a way to communicate, and that access, once built, becomes the engine for further growth. For learners who do not use speech or rely on speech alone to be heard and understood, that means a reliable way to initiate, request, comment, and connect with anyone, anywhere, without waiting for a prompt. That is autonomous communication, the goal Building Blocks is built around.

Building Blocks equips participants to recognize complex communication needs, respond with effective strategies, including the use of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), and sustain that practice beyond training.



Assistive Technology Journey

Road to independence

Assistive technology (AT) is anything that helps a learner do what they could not do otherwise. It can be the traction that gets a student moving, but many educators hesitate, believing AT belongs to specialists with training they do not have. That perception is the barrier, not a lack of expertise. The teacher who knows how a student focuses, the paraprofessional who knows what frustrates them, the parent who knows what works at home, each already holds a piece of the AT picture. At Journey does not ask educators to become specialists. It asks them to recognize the expertise they already carry, and use it.



Comprehensive Literacy Instruction for Students with Significant Disabilities

No student is too anything to be able to read and write

Literacy expands what a learner can express, and every learner deserves the chance to build it, regardless of the significance of their disability. This course, offered through Building Blocks, teaches classroom and ancillary staff to structure daily literacy instruction for learners with significant disabilities and complex communication needs. Michigan offers the course through direct collaboration with its authors, Dr. Karen Erickson and Dr. David Koppenhaver.



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"Every learner has special needs"

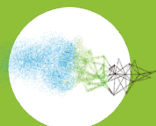
-Andy Hargreaves



Assistive Technology Lending Library

Discover the Possibilities

Try before you invest. Michigan PK-12 public schools can borrow for a trial period, free of charge, a wide range of assistive technology for learners with disabilities, ages birth-26. This allows testing to determine what works in the classroom before committing a budget to it. See what a device makes possible for a student, then decide, with evidence instead of guesswork, whether it enhances student outcomes.



Accessible Materials Made Right (AMMR)

Design with accessibility in mind

More than 1 in 4 US adults live with a disability affecting vision, hearing, dexterity, mobility, or cognition. Content built without accessibility in mind excludes a significant share of the people it is meant to reach.

AMMR trains anyone who creates digital content, including administrators, teachers, support staff, office staff, and technology specialists, to build documents and presentations that remove common accessibility barriers. Delivered through self-paced Edupaths modules, it moves accessible design from a compliance requirement into a default habit.

