NIMAS Implementation Strategies
Where Do You Begin?

National Association of State Directors of Special Education

Minneapolis, Minnesota

American Foundation for the Blind

Mary Ann Siller, M.Ed.

siller@afb.net

Rick Bowes

rbowes@bowesweb.com

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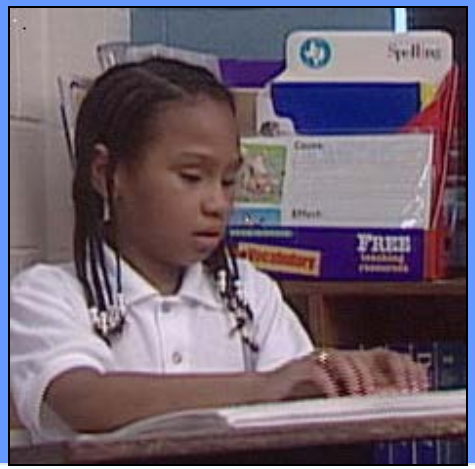
Keys to Success

Time is Ticking---But 14 Months Before Implementation.

1. **Establish the Capacity to Provide Accessible Textbooks and Instructional Materials on Time.**

2. **Establish Models for an Efficient Statewide Approach for K-12.**

3. **Maximize Coordination Among Stakeholders.**



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AFB Guidelines Document for NIMAS

Background:

1. National Research conducted by AFB in 2000 and 2004
2. From the 2004 results, 88% of the nation's school districts were represented

Significant answers:

1. Need more training
2. Immediate need for a centralized system
3. Need a new process for Interagency Coordination/Cooperation
4. Need more braille transcribers and other personnel

Results:

1. Need guidelines for a formal process to review state capacity with production of textbooks and instructional materials in K-12

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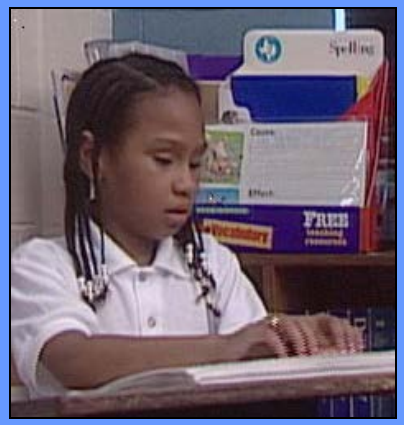
NIMAS Resources:

The AFB Solutions Forum

is a national collaborative effort to ensure equal access to textbooks and instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired.

The goal of the AFB Solutions Forum is to develop a coordinated action plan for assuring equality of access to instructional materials for students who are blind or visually impaired.



AFB's organizational partners

include 49 leading national organizations and associations in textbook publishing; education; literacy; access technology; production of braille, large-print, and recorded textbooks; and services for the blind and visually impaired.

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Do You Know What Your Instructional Materials Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired Can Do For You?

Instructional Resource Centers for the Blind and Visually Impaired (IRCBVI)

Important role of the Instructional Materials Centers as a unifying structure to serving students with visual impairments

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NIMAS Files Require Further Formatting

Files from the NIMAC will not be immediately ready for student use. For Braille, trained braille transcribers will be needed to add the formatting and structure for braille and tactile graphics.

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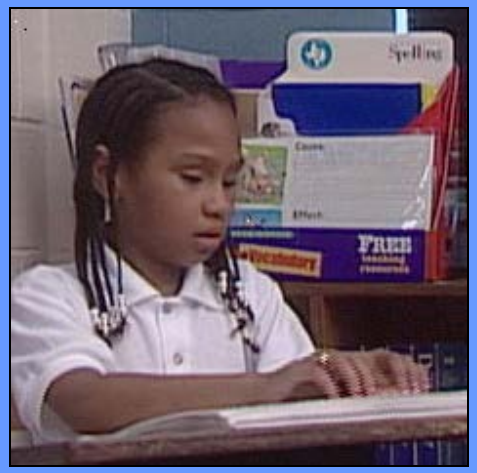
AFB Guidelines Checklist for States and Local Education Agencies

Guidelines Document as a First Step Resource:

20 Action Statements and a Glossary



Themes:

1. **Do You Have a Game Plan Involving All Key Stakeholders?**
2. **Are There State and LEA Procedures?**
3. **Do all LEAs Know the Resources Available to Them in Your State and Out-of-State?**

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Guidelines Document as a First Step Resource

Continued---

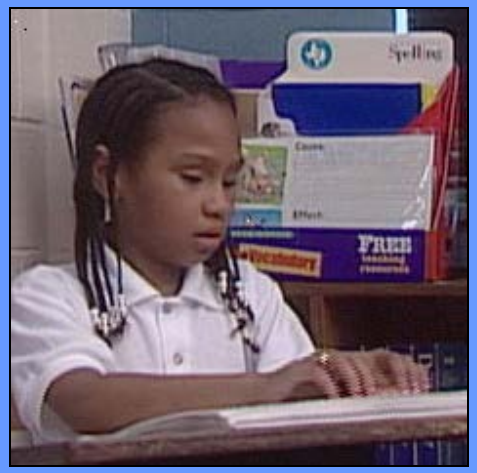
Themes:

4. **Do LEAs Use a Realistic Timeline to Order Alternate Formats of Textbooks?**
5. **Do You Have a Process to Collect Data on the Effectiveness of Production and Delivery of Alternate Formats?**
6. **Do You Have a Process for Developing Resources to Support Effective Implementation of this Aspect of IDEA?**

Next Steps

- ✓ Begin Now and Pick a Champion in Your State to Organize Key Stakeholders
- ✓ Your Process Must Be Up and Running By December 2006 When NIMAS Files are Sent to the NIMAC by Publishers
- ✓ Use the AFB Guidelines Document to Form a Profile and Action Plan for Your State
- ✓ AFB is here to help as a national resource

www.afb.org/education.asp and siller@afb.net



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2006 NIMAS Implementation
Upcoming Resources

March 2, 2006

Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown
Atlanta, Georgia

Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute
March 3-5, 2006

For more information: siller@afb.net

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Impact on Students in all 50 States

"What induces a child to learn but his delight in knowing?"

- ***My Religion, 1927***
- ***Helen Keller***

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