

**Bow School District
Special Education Department
32 White Rock Hill Road
Bow, NH 03304
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**SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REPORT
PREPARED FEBRUARY 25, 2011 FOR MARCH 10, 2011
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

New Alternate Assessment Program

Student participation in a statewide assessment is one part of the statewide accountability system that helps to ensure that all New Hampshire children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education through the New Hampshire Curriculum. Every student –regardless of disability status - must be allowed to show what they know, can do, and how they are progressing, based upon challenging state academic achievement standards.

The Department of Education strongly recommends that all students should be given the benefit of higher expectations and be included in the general assessment (NECAP) with appropriate and necessary supports.

Special Education Teams may determine that an individual student should participate in an Alternate Assessment rather than the general assessment.

The New Hampshire Department of Education piloted a new Alternate Assessment in fall 2010. Districts will now be using the NH Alternate Learning Progressions Assessment (NH-ALP) for students requiring an alternate assessment.

Bow School District staff has recently attended training sessions and will be assessing eligible students with the NH-ALP starting this spring.

Assistive Technology Training

On February 11th, the West Central Special Education Directors sponsored an Assistive Technology Workshop. Three members of the Bow Special Education Department attended the day long workshop presented by Smart AT at the Kearsarge Regional School District. A second workshop will be held in April and three additional staff members will attend.

Some students require assistive technologies, augmentative communication devices and other equipment that allows their participation in our schools. The workshop addressed the decision making aspects of AT as well as the continuum of low to high tech equipment and devices.

Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI)

During the months of February and March CPI training will be offered to teachers and paraprofessionals. Individuals already trained will attend a one day re-certification program and new, untrained staff will participate in two days of training.

The sessions address positive interactions, approaches and interventions for behavior that is disruptive or presents as a safety concern to oneself or others.

We are very fortunate to have four fully certified trainers in the district. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our program trainers, Melissa Cook, Jodi Gutterman, Kristin Menard and Kelly Ardita.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Ferreira

Director of Special Education