

# The Who, What, Why and How of Website Accessibility

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# Introductions

- Jennifer Sagalyn – Director of Business Development Perkins Solutions Perkins School for the Blind [jennifer.sagalyn@perkins.org](mailto:jennifer.sagalyn@perkins.org)
- Joshua Olstad – IT Director Oyster River Cooperative School District, NH CTO Council [jolstad@orcscd.org](mailto:jolstad@orcscd.org)

# Oyster River's Story

- Migrating to new website content management system
- Aware of OCR complaints from west coast and mid west
- Vendors and marketing emails

# The Facts

- Website Content Accessibility Guidelines WCAG 2.0 AA
- Schools in NH currently have OCR complaints against them
- Who is responsible?

# WCAG 2.0 AA Examples

- Alt Text
- Captions
- Resize text
- How color is used
- Navigation via keyboard
- No flashing content
- Labels and descriptors

<https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/glance/>



Is your information  
accessible to people  
who can't see?

# Next Steps – Accessibility Statement

The Oyster River Cooperative School District is committed to providing access to our electronic and information technology, including our web pages, for individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Section 504 requires us to ensure that persons with disabilities seeking information or services from us, have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to the access and use by persons who are not individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would be imposed on us.

To meet this commitment, we are in the process of redesigning our web pages to meet or exceed the Section 504 standards. If you have a disability and the format of any material on our web pages interferes with your ability to access the information, please contact us by email at [webmaster@orcsd.org](mailto:webmaster@orcsd.org) or telephone (603) 868-5100. To enable us to respond in a manner most helpful to you, please indicate the nature of the accessibility problem, the web address of the requested material, your preferred format in which you want to receive the material (electronic format, standard print, large print, etc.) and your contact information.

<http://www.orcsd.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=538093&pageId=1334500>

# Next Steps

- Stay current with federal and state regulations
- District-Wide Policy regarding accessibility
- Build Staff Capacity
  - [Trusted Tester program from Department of Homeland Security](#)
  - [Web Accessibility – Udacity \(free\)](#)



# Next Steps – Website Audit

- Use free tools like [WAVE](#) \*
- Paid tools from [PowerMapper](#)\*
- Manual Testing (trained internal person or outside group)
- Have community members with disabilities do some testing for you
- Utilize an outside group to audit for you

\*automated tools are only about 30% effective

# Oyster River Current Status

- Focus on people not scare tactics
- Accessibility Statement
- Talk to Special Education about students and families with disabilities
- Educating staff
- Still working on it

# Resources

- [CoSN Accessibility Toolkit](#)
- [WCAG 2.0 At a Glance](#)
- [Microsoft Office Accessibility Checker](#)
- [Denver Public Schools Accessibility Guide](#)
- [Perkins School for the Blind – Perkins Solutions](#)

# Beyond the Website

- Let vendors know you need accessible solutions (digital textbooks, resources, learning materials)
- Technology Evaluation Process – include accessibility
- Educate teachers about accessibility
- Provide guidance on how to create accessible content
- Set the bar high – accessibility is mandatory not a “nice to have”