This survey will be sent to all middle school Language Arts teachers.

Research- Assistive Technology and Writing

 INFORMED CONSENT FORM (Teacher Survey)

RESEARCH PROCEDURES
This research is being conducted to explore adult attitudes towards the use of computers and assistive technology for writing. The targeted population for this assistive technology is students who have an IEP with accommodations in the area of written language. If you agree to participate, you will be asked to provide input and feedback, electronically, about the potential use of assistive technology. This will assist the researchers better understand adult attitudes regarding the use of assistive technology to meet the specific needs and learning characteristics of students with an IEP.

RISKS
There are no foreseeable risks for participating in this survey.

BENEFITS
There are no benefits to you as a participant other than to further research in the effects of the use of assistive technology for students with disabilities.

CONFIDENTIALITY
The data in this study will be confidential. While it is understood that no computer transmission can be perfectly secure, reasonable efforts will be made to protect the confidentiality of your transmission. In the ACPS online survey, neither your name nor any other identifier, including your internet protocol (IP) address, will be placed on the survey or other research data. All electronically, digitally or personally recorded data will be labeled with coded participant numbers. Your name will not be included on surveys or other collected data. A code will be placed on all surveys and other collected data. Through the use of an identification key, the researcher will be able to link your survey to your identity, if known. Only the researcher will have access to the identification key.

PARTICIPATION
Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw from the study at any time and for any reason. If you decide not to participate or if you withdraw from the study, there is no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. There are no costs to you or any other party.

CONTACT
This research is being conducted by Susan Kenney under the direction of Dr. Margo Mastropieri at George Mason University. Dr. Margo Mastropieri may be reached at 703-993-4136 for questions or to report a research-related problem. You may also contact Dr. Monte E. Dawson, Executive Director, Monitoring and Evaluation Services of Alexandria City Public Schools at 703-824-6638, regarding questions about this research. You may contact the George Mason University Office of Research Subject Protections at 703-993-4121 if you have questions or comments regarding your rights as a participant in the research.

This research has been reviewed according to George Mason University procedures governing your participation in this research.

Revised 07/2005

Survey

CONSENT
I have read the above information. By choosing the button next to the agreement statement I give my consent and the survey will begin.   If I do not agree the survey will close. Thank you for your time.

☐ A.   I agree to participate in this study.

☐ B.   I do not agree to participate in this study.

* Indicates questions that correlate with ACPS 2004-05 Survey.

** Indicates questions that were modified from questions on the ACPS 2004-05 Survey.

1. * Your School

☐ A.   George Washington

☐ B.   Francis C. Hammond

2. I have taught

☐ A.   0-3 years

☐ B.   4-9 years

☐ C.   10-14 years

☐ D.   15-19 years

☐ E.   20 + years

3. * What level(s) do you teach? (Check all that apply)

    ☐ A.   Honors

    ☐ B.   TAG

    ☐ C.   ESL

    ☐ D.   Regular

    ☐ E.   Special Education

    ☐ F.   Other level (specify) ▢

4.   * What grade(s) do you teach? (Check all that apply)

    ☐ A.   6

    ☐ B.   7

    ☐ C.   8

5.   * Do you have a computer at home?

    Yes ☐   No ☐

6.   * Do you have Internet at home?

    Yes ☐   No ☐

7.   * How would you describe your over all computer skills?

    ☐ A.   Very poor

    ☐ B.   Poor

    ☐ C.   Fair

    ☐ D.   Good

☐ E.   Very good

8.   * Which of these statements best describes your feelings about using

technology?

☐ A.   I avoid using technology as much as possible.

☐ B.   I use technology a lot but it's just a tool for me,

not a hobby.

☐ C.   I enjoy working with technology and learning

new ways to use it.

☐ D.   I often help my friends with their technology

problems and I like showing them how to use technology in

different ways.

9.   ** During the past 9 school months, how much time did you and your

students spend using computers? [   ]

10.   * How important is having access to technology for your students'

education?

☐ A.   Very unimportant

☐ B.   Unimportant

☐ C.   Don't know

☐ D.   Somewhat important

☐ E.   Very important

11.   * Please Describe Successes and/or challenges you have experienced

with using technology. ▢

12.   Here are some ways I integrate the computer as a student tool into my

class? ▢

13.   To use the computer as a student tool in a class environment, a

teacher needs ▢

14.   When a computer is used as a student tool, these are some very

important features. ▢   Because ▢

15.   When a computer is used as a student tool, these features should be

disabled. ▢   Because ▢

16.   ** On a scale from 1-10, with 10 being the most beneficial, how

beneficial is the use of technology for:

Low achieving students? ▢

Average students? ▢

High achieving students? ▢

17.   How familiar are you with assistive technology (AT)?

☐ A.   I'm not sure what it is.

☐ B.   I've heard or read a little bit about AT.

☐ C.   I know what AT is.

☐ D.   I am very familiar with AT and have had

students using it.

18.   What is your perspective about students using AT? ☐

19.   ** What do you feel are the biggest benefits of using AT with students?

       ☐

20.   ** What do you feel are the biggest problems with using AT with

       students? ☐

21.   ** Feel free to provide any additional comments about using AT with

       students. ☐

Integrating computers into writing classes and allowing students to use

assistive technology can be daunting to many teachers. If you would be

willing to share your ideas about classroom computer use and AT use in an

interview, please e-mail acat@acps.k12.va.us and you will be contacted.

Thank you for your help!