

# **Assistive Technology Devices and Services**

## **Hearing Aids and External components of Surgically Implanted Medical Devices**

### **How hearing aids and external components of surgically implanted medical devices for students with disabilities are properly maintained:**

The Mercer Area School District ensures that hearing aids and external components of surgically implanted medical devices for students with disabilities are properly maintained thru the assistance of the Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4 Audiologist (Dr. Matthew Schomburg) and their Hearing Impaired Teacher – Ms. Amy Hayes. The District's LEA assists with ongoing communication between the IU #4 Hearing Support Teacher and the Audiologist involved with the student. (This may be Children's Hospital or a private Audiologist along with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4 Audiologist.

The Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4's Hearing Impaired Teacher and Audiologist work together when the IU Audiologist is setting up the amplification system (FM System) for the student's classroom. The LEA assures that communication continues on the student's use of the FM System and the wearing of their hearing aids. When possible, repairs are made by the Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4 Audiologist yearly.

The classroom teacher is instructed with the wearing of the student's hearing aid along with the amplification system (FM System) by the Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4 Audiologist. Checks are made by the Hearing Support Teacher when necessary. The Hearing Support Teacher provides assistance on any situations that occur with the student's hearing aids and FM System. Contact is made to the Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4 Audiologist if needed. The goal of the School District is to increase the student's independence in the care and wearing of their FM System and hearing aids.

The District's School Nurse is aware of all students with a hearing loss. Extra batteries and other tools needed for individual hearing aids and cochlear implants are in her office. Extra batteries are in the classroom as well. The LEA maintains collaboration between the IU#4's Hearing Support Teacher, and the MASD Classroom Teacher, Guidance Counselor and Administration concerning the student's academic and equipment needs.

The District provides the availability to attend training that is provided by the Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4.

The student's IEP will have Hearing Support and Audiological Services listed on the modification page. These will be discussed at the IEP meeting to be sure they are providing what is needed. The District provides ongoing communication with parents, Midwestern Intermediate Unit #4 Audiologist and Hearing Support Teacher, Classroom Teachers, Speech Therapists and Hearing Support Teacher through journals, phone calls and emails.