American With Disabilities Act - ADA  
Offices of Civil Rights (State & Federal)

New Website Requirements

Web accessibility refers to the inclusive practice of removing barriers that prevent interaction with, or access to websites, by people with disabilities. Accessibility applies to students, parents, employees, and the general public. Following the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) is a priority for all public and government websites.

Here in Commack, we are taking measures to ensure compliance with the ADA including:

Posting only ADA compliant content. Here are some examples:

* 1. Word and Acrobat documents must be screen-reader compatible
  2. Videos must be closed-captioned
  3. Every image, graph, chart, or photo (non-text content) must have a text alternative, known as Alt-text.
  4. Visual content (text) has a high contrast ratio
  5. All functions (selecting menu options) are selectable via the keyboard (Tab, Enter) without using a mouse.

For more info: <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#text-equiv>

What does this mean for our teachers?

Teacher web pages must also reflect the ADA requirements.

* Please remove any scanned documents – scans cannot be read by a screen reader
* Alt-text needs to be added to PowerPoint/Word/Publisher presentations that have images. Presentations that include graphics (charts, photos, etc.) must have Alt Tags (text) that describe the photo, chart, etc., so a person with disabilities that uses a screen reader will be able to fully understand the presentation.  
  Here’s a link that shows how to do this: <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Video-Improve-accessibility-with-alt-text-9c57ee44-bb48-40e3-aad4-7647fc1dba51>.
* Generally, text-based Word documents are fine, as are documents saved as Adobe pdfs that don’t include images. Scanned documents are NOT compliant.
* If you have videos that are linked from another website, they should already be closed-captioned (if you’re linked to a public or governmental institution). When in doubt, delete the link.

Additional information:

Office Accessibility Center: <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Office-Accessibility-Center-Resources-for-people-with-disabilities-ecab0fcf-d143-4fe8-a2ff-6cd596bddc6d?ui=en-US&rs=en-US&ad=US>

Here’s a link to one of the best resources on ADA & Websites: <http://www.southcentralric.org/Legalities.aspx>