



Fall for reading...

Digital Rights Manager Spotlight



Brenda Marion
Mecklenburg School Division

I am an itinerant teacher for the Visually Impaired in Mecklenburg County Public Schools. I have been affiliated with AIM-VA since its beginning. As a veteran teacher of 35 years, the use of alternative formatting for textbooks and leisure reading has long been a part of my workday.

My students use large print and auditory formats to access the regular education curriculum. Textbooks have been provided using downloads to flash drives, which enable my students to access their materials at school and at home. AIM-VA partnering with Bookshare and Learning Ally have afforded my students to access library books either for leisure reading or for novels covered in English classes. One of my students that has used large print and audio textbooks, workbooks, and library books since he was in the

first grade has shown great improvement. Last year was his first time taking the SOLs, and boy did he ace them! He earned advanced scores on both the Reading and the Math SOLs. His access to large print and audio versions of printed materials has been the key to enabling him to learn in the classroom as his peers do.

AIM-VA has done a great job with assistance and help. Their webinars, Knowledge at Noon (12:00-12:30), have provided answers to questions and tips for use covering a variety of topics. As a Lead DRM, I have encouraged my colleagues to become DRMs and to access AIM-VA for their students with special needs. My county has added a line item to its IEP regarding students qualifying for AIM-VA services. Qualifying needs are discussed during our Eligibility process with certification being made by our educational diagnosticians. We are trying very hard to meet the Read Aloud accommodation of our students with special needs using alternative formatting rather than just with natural voice. AIM-VA is a resource to help us do just that!



AIM VA Help Desk

George Mason University
4400 University Drive, MS 1F2
Fairfax, VA 22030

Phone: 866-926-1879
Fax: 703-993-5149
Email: aimva@gmu.edu

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