

Speech and Language Services

Why?

We believe that every student can communicate. Communication is complex and multi-modal (verbal/non-verbal). Language skills are necessary within the school environment to engage in social interactions, to support functional performance, and to access the curriculum. Effective communication is the cornerstone of preparing students to become contributing members of society.

Focus

NSSEO provides Speech and Language technical assistance to school-based programs within the cooperative and is available to all eight member districts. A best-practice model, as defined by the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA), is used to support the integral roles Speech-Language Pathologists have in education. Speech-Language services help students meet the performance standards of the school district and state (Common Core State Standards) specifically reading, writing, listening, speaking, and problem solving.

Who We Are

The Speech and Language services consist of an ASHA certified Speech-Language Technical Assistance Coordinator and an Administrative Assistant.

Services

- Facilitate Speech and Language department meetings within NSSEO programs and member districts.
- Consultation with special education staff, administration, general education staff, parents.
- Assessment of oral motor skills and the development of feeding programs.
- Professional development opportunities for staff and parents.
- Curriculum development, adaptation, and modification to support speech and language development.
- Assessment and training in the use of augmentative and alternative communication devices and supports.
- Dissemination of best-practice information in the form of newsletters, email alerts, and state and federal publications.
- Specialized coaching for Early Childhood and English Language Learner programs.
- Support for the role of the Speech Language Pathologist in implementing Response to Intervention (RtI) and integrated therapy services.

