BRAILLISTS: INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL SPECIALISTS

A cost effective way to increase the efficiency of your VI program.

Braille paraprofessionals:

Adapt materials to be used by students with visual impairments at the same time as their peers to ensure compliance and support successful results for high-stakes testing.

Produce materials in alternative formats (e.g. enlarged print and/or braille, recorded texts, e-books, tactile maps and graphics) in consistent and appropriate formats.

Maintain inventories for visual impairment program, including:

- Brailled materials and other tactile materials,
- Recorded and electronic files, and
- Resource files for locating alternative sources of braille and tactile materials.

Impact on district:

- **Cost effective**: Producing materials in the district will be less expensive than purchasing them.
- **Optimize instructional time**: Braillists increase the amount of time VI professionals are available for instruction.
- **Increases retention**: Braillists reduce paperwork for VI professionals and demonstrate support: key factors in retention.

Excellent braille paraprofessionals are:

- Independent and reliable employees from the district’s non-teaching staff who are excellent team members.
- Interested in developing new skills and are comfortable with technology.
- Detail oriented.
- Interested in expanding their professionalism.
- Trained through on-line and correspondence courses and via many ESCs.

Contact your regional education service center (ESC) for information and resources on recruiting and training braille paraprofessionals!

Developed with input from the Professional Preparation Advisory Group (PPAG) and published by TSBVI.