



### PERMISSION FOR ELECTRONIC COPIES

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In response to the March 14, 2014 memo from the US Department of Education, Office of the Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, Voluntown Public Schools is offering parents of students with special needs the option of receiving electronic copies of the items listed below:

- PPT Minutes / IEP Documents
- Quarterly IEP Progress Reports
- Correspondence pertaining to special education related information and or activities

The March 14, 2014 memo reads as follows:

Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the implementing regulations, parents may elect to receive prior written notices, procedural safeguards notices, and due process complaint notices by an electronic mail communication, if the public agency makes that option available. 34 CFR 900.505. The IDEA statute and regulations do not explicitly address the use of electronic mail for other documents required under the IDEA. However, OSEP has stated that the IDEA statute and regulations do not prohibit the use of electronic mail to carry out administrative matters under section 615 of the IDEA, so long as the parent of the child with a disability and the public agency agree. Analysis of Comments and Changes to Final Regulations Implementing 2004 IDEA, 71 Fed. Reg. 46540, 46687 ( Aug. 14, 2006). In addition, OSEP has stated that States may use electronic or digital signatures for consent, provided they take the necessary steps to ensure that there are appropriate safeguards to protect the integrity of the process. That is, consistent with {300.9(b), a parent must understand and agree to the carrying out of the activity for which the parent's consent is sought. 71 Fed. Reg. at 46629. Further, with regards to the requirement under 34 CFR §300.320(a)(3)(ii) concerning periodic progress reports, OSEP has left the discretion with State and local officials to determine the manner and format for reporting a child's progress toward meeting the annual goals. 71 Fed. Reg. at 46664,

### AUTHORIZATION

I give permission to Voluntown Public Schools to forward electronic copies of the following documents in lieu of mailing a hard copy.

- PPT Minutes / IEP Documents
- Quarterly IEP Progress Reports
- Correspondence pertaining to special education related information and or activities

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_