Panorama Education & Accessibility

INTRODUCTION

Panorama Education can help schools and districts succeed in aligning with key Section 508 and W3C's WCAG 2.0 guidelines. The chart below briefly summarizes how Panorama can support teachers and school leaders in survey taking by adhering to general accessibility guidelines. As a company, we are committed to providing equal and equitable access for all schools. This includes accessibility for all respondents on our Panorama survey platform.

Section 508 - **"Equal Access to Information for Federally Funded Institutions"**
All federally funded institutions, including public K-12 schools, are required to 508 Compliant. Section 508 Standards, part of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), addresses access for people with physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities. Like the WCAG 2.0 guidelines, Section 508 contains technical criteria on the functional capability for various types of technology.

W3C WCAG 2.0 - **"Standards for Web Content Accessibility"**
"It is essential that the Web be accessible in order to provide equal access and equal opportunity to people with disabilities. Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) is developed through the W3C process … with a goal of proving a single shared standard for web content accessibility that meets the needs of individuals, organizations, and governments internationally."

There are several specific ways Panorama can be used to help accomplish the purpose of accessibility in survey-taking:

SECTION 508 GUIDELINES	HOW PANORAMA MEETS GUIDELINE
General Readability and Design	Panorama's survey taking application includes minimal multimedia, including images. Our pages have been designed to provide for sufficient contrast and color is not used solely to provide important information.
Navigation and Page Structure	Panorama's survey taking application is simple and straightforward. Our pages meet all Section 508 standards for HTML content. Our application is readable without a style sheet and it produces valid, W3C-compliant Web page markup.

W3C's WCAG 2.0 Guidelines	HOW PANORAMA MEETS GUIDELINE
Perceivable Provide text alternatives for non-text content. Provide captions and other alternatives for multimedia. Create content that can be presented in different ways, including by assistive technologies, without losing meaning. Make it easier for users to see and hear content.	Panorama surveys do not rely heavily on multimedia, and we don't currently use video or audio on our survey-taking pages. Our surveys are screen reader compatible and we follow accessibility guidelines for contrast and color to ensure compatibility with assistive technology.
Operable Make all functionality available from a keyboard. Give users enough time to read and use content. Do not use content that causes seizures. Help users navigate and find content.	Panorama survey respondents can complete surveys using only a keyboard or mouse. Our surveys don't have a time limit, which gives users plenty of time to share their responses. Our survey-taking pages can be processed by screen readers, which can help users navigate and find content easily.
Understandable Make text readable and understandable Make content appear and operate in predictable ways. Help users avoid and correct mistakes.	Panorama's survey-taking pages have very few non-text elements, and the answer choices on our survey taking forms appear in a consistent format. The Panorama Survey Instruments are research-backed and have been validated to ensure that respondents can understand what is being asked of them. Our survey content follows best practices in survey design.
Robust Compatibility Maximize compatibility with a wide variety of current and future user tools. Make content accessible as technology advances	Panorama Education's survey application produces valid, W3C-compliant Web page markup. We have implemented automated tests for our survey-taking application to ensure that our pages meet accessibility standards and compatibility currently and in the future.