

A Timely Reminder

Circleville Middle School intervention specialist Tiffany Lewis has a new best friend, so to speak. It's the WatchMinder3, a watch that allows the teacher to program messages to alert the student at different programmed intervals throughout the school day. This assistive technology allows students to be more independent in their self-monitoring of any targeted behavioral intervention. Teachers can set the watch to send an alert at intermittent or intervals of time. Timers can also be faded as the student develops his/her skills in self-monitoring.

The WatchMinder3 allows teachers to successfully implement behavioral interventions for multiple students in their classroom without needing to redirect students to self-monitor and self-assess their behavior. With this tool, the teacher can 1) collect data on a student's behavior, 2) improve data driven decision-making about the success of behavioral interventions, and 3) decide whether to continue the intervention or plan for a different one. The WatchMinder3 also enhances the student's educational experience, because it allows them to be more independent in the classroom.

Before implementing this intervention, baseline data was collected on the student's targeted behaviors. A self-monitoring intervention was put into place without the WatchMinder3. The data was analyzed and indicated inconsistent student progress. The following school day the WatchMinder3 was included in the intervention. This time the student's behaviors showed improvement and were more consistent. Not only did the student's behavior improve, but his grades also improved by one letter grade.

According to Ms. Lewis, with continued use of the WatchMinder3 more students will become independent learners. CCSF applauds the district's staff in implementing innovative ideas to foster the growth of their students, both academically and behaviorally.

