

## Integrating AAC in the Classroom: Tips and Tools for Successful Implementation

*September 2, 2026*

*7:00-8:00 p.m. EDT*

PRESENTED BY:

Betsy Caporale and Sharon Redmon



### ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:

**Betsy Caporale, M.S., CCC-SLP** has worked in the field of AAC/AT for over 30 years. She earned her Competency Certificate in Communication Assistive Technology Applications from The National Association of State Directors of Special Education and an Assistive Technology Specialty Certificate in Communication Services from the University of South Florida. While working for the California Department of Education she developed and taught an AAC Assessment and Services Certification Course, certifying over 200 SLPs in educational settings. Betsy is the owner of Augmentative Communication Solutions, LLC, which supports students with complex communication and learning needs in school districts throughout California. She currently serves as the Director of Professional Affairs for USSAAC.

**Sharon Redmon, M.S. ATP**, is a seasoned educator with over 25 years of experience spanning Special Education (SpEd), General Education (GenEd), and Assistive Technology (AT) specializations. She will hold a Doctoral degree from Penn State in Special Education in August of 2026. Her dissertation was funded in part by the AAC Doctoral Leadership Project (U.S. Department of Education, H325D220021). She has an M.S. in Adaptive Education: Assistive Technology from St. Norbert College and is an Assistive Technology Professional (ATP). Her varied career placements within WI, WA, and overseas schools have given her unique opportunities to combine her passion for Assistive Technology, AAC, and literacy. She is passionate about sharing her experiences with others so that we can all continue to learn together.

**SEMINAR DESCRIPTION:** This session will focus on functional, practical and evidence-based strategies for implementing AAC in the classroom. Best practices for assessment will be reviewed, including the use of authentic measures within meaningful, real-life contexts. Participants will learn how to use a skills matrix as part of the authentic assessment process to determine skill sets and assist in developing IEP goals and objectives. They will also be shown how to develop an individual Implementation Plan which clearly identifies how, when and where AAC tools and strategies will be used across settings.

MODERATED BY: Amy Bereiter

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SLPs who are USSAAC/ISAAC members may have their participation in this webinar reported for ASHA CEUs at no charge. Non-members must pay a \$25 reporting fee.

This course is offered for 0.10 ASHA CEUs (Introductory level; Professional area).

## PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

1. Determine the skill sets of students with complex communication and learning needs using authentic assessment measures.
2. Select appropriate AAC/AT tools, strategies and learning activities for a student based on current skill sets.
3. Develop an AAC/AT Implementation Plan for a student with complex communication and learning needs.

## TIME ORDERED AGENDA:

- 5 minutes: Introduction of Speakers, USSAAC and topic
- 10 minutes: Review of best practices for assessment
- 10 minutes: Using a Skills Matrix for students with CCN
- 10 minutes: Selecting appropriate AAC tools and strategies
- 15 minutes: Implementation of AAC
- 10 minutes: Q & A

*American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) CEUs in speech-language pathology and audiology are awarded by the ASHA CE Registry upon receipt of the CEU Participant Form from the ASHA Approved CE Provider, USSAAC. CEU Participant Forms are available online at Registration or via the QR Code displayed during the presentation. ASHA CEUs are provided to full registrations. This program is offered for .10 ASHA CEUs (Introductory Level, Professional Area). Participants must stay for the entire presentation and complete the questionnaire at the end of the webinar.*

## ASHA Disclosures:

### Speakers

#### Financial:

Betsy Caporale is the owner of Augmentative Communication Solutions, LLC.

Sharon Redmon works as an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. She received funding from the AAC Leadership Grant (US Dept. of Educ.) at Pennsylvania State University.

#### Nonfinancial:

Betsy Caporale is a USSAAC board member and chairs the Education Committee.

Sharon Redmon is a member of the USSAAC Education Committee, the Wisconsin AAC Network and is a founding member of WATRN

### Moderator:

#### Financial:

Amy Bereiter has no financial disclosures to report.

#### Nonfinancial:

Amy Bereiter is a member of the USSAAC Education Committee.

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[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Uz\\_VxO2HRLev3s0DTG5QHQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Uz_VxO2HRLev3s0DTG5QHQ)

*PLEASE NOTE: Only the first 150 attendees to log into the webinar will be guaranteed spots.*

## USSAAC EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Amy Bereiter, Betsy Caporale, Kate DeJarnette, Nicole Gallagher, Richard Hurtig, Michelle Phillipy, Wendy Quach, Sharon Redmon

## about USSAAC

The United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC) is the national chapter of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). As the United States' only non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the entire AAC community, USSAAC provides an invaluable role, working to ensure that individuals who could benefit from AAC have access to the technology and services they need.

Benefits of membership include, but are not limited to:

- *Free access to USSAAC webinar series with ASHA CEUs and USSAAC Twitter chats*
- *Advocacy for maintaining & expanding access to AAC systems and services*
- *Discount to ISAAC Conferences*
- *SpeakUp publication/Blog*
- *Information updates on USSAAC website, social platforms and member finder*
- *Membership in ISAAC with their additional benefits*

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