

EDUCATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

My letter 26-years later, Trudy Suggs
-Silent News, 1990- original letter

Let's take a quick look at some of what I wrote. "Some deaf students, in my opinion, will perform at their best abilities in mainstreamed settings, such as I do." Actually, I sucked at school. I was never a great student, and I never felt as if I was academically or even personally smart. Today, I realize I struggled because the interpreters weren't qualified for the most part, and I didn't have direct communication access.



NATIONAL STANDARDS

The National Association of Interpreters in Education: Educational interpreters earn pre-service training in a Bachelor's Degree program for educational interpreting.



CREDENTIALS

Earning a 4.0 or higher on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment & demonstrate language competency to interpret in the k-12 setting.



TEAMWORK

Interpreters work alongside the teachers to ensure the curriculum is accurately delivered in a different language. They prepare and engage in research for every lesson.

The role of the educational sign language interpreter is multifaceted. Educational interpreting requires a high level of knowledge and linguistic skill to own the ability to interpret between two distinct languages, ASL & English. The interpreter provides communication access to all the hearing and deaf participants in a school setting.

As a "related service provider" within the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), they serve as a member of the student's IEP team. They are legally responsible for supporting the IEP goals. They provide timely and effective access to communication under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). -Dr. Brenda Schick

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trudysuggs.com/my-letter-26-years-later