

Relations With Education Research Agencies

The Board of Education recognizes that requests will be made on occasion by non-school personnel and/or agencies to conduct research projects in the school that have educational and social benefit.

However, because such projects invariably involve school personnel and interrupt class instructional time, it is necessary to evaluate carefully the merits of each project before permission is granted.

All requests to conduct research shall be reviewed by the superintendent's designee in accordance with this policy and accompanying procedures to determine if permission shall be granted.

If research by non-school personnel is to involve students, complete information about the project shall be provided to parents and students in advance. No student shall be the subject of any research project without the prior written consent of the student's parents or guardian and the student himself if the student is old enough to understand the process and purpose of the project. Consent shall not be necessary when the researcher merely will observe students engaged in normal activities.

All researchers shall be prepared to explain the purpose, risks, benefits procedures, results and intended uses of the project in understandable terms. A student's or parent's decision not to participate in a research project conducted by non-school personnel shall be kept private and respected in all cases.

Experimentation Programs or Projects

No student shall be required without prior written consent to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

1. Political affiliations
2. Mental and psychological conditions potentially embarrassing to the student or the student's family
3. Sexual behavior and attitudes
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior

5. Critical appraisal of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships
6. Legally-recognized privileged or analogous relationships such as those of lawyers, physicians and members of the clergy
7. Income other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program

Participation in such research or experimentation programs shall require the prior written consent of the parent or emancipated minor.

"Research or experimentation program or project" means a program or project designed to explore or develop new or unproven teaching methods or techniques.

All instructional and supplementary materials used in connection with any research, survey, evaluation, analysis or experimentation program or project shall be available for review by the parents of students involved in the project for at least two weeks after notice of the proposed activity has been given.

Adopted: December 1994

Revised: June 26, 2001

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. 1232h
C.R.S. § 22-1-123

CROSS REFS.: GCS-R, Professional Research and Publishing