

RELATIONS WITH EDUCATION RESEARCH AGENCIES
Student Surveys, Assessment, Analysis or Evaluation

The District recognizes that requests will be made on occasion by nonschool 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.

Except as otherwise permitted by law, students shall not be required to submit to a survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation that is intended to reveal information, whether the information is personally identifiable or not, without prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible survey, if that survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation reveals information in the following areas ("protected information"):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
2. Mental or psychological conditions of the student or the student's family
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has a close family relationship
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians and ministers
7. Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program)
9. Social security number

All requests to conduct research shall be reviewed by the district research review committee in accordance with this policy and accompanying procedures to determine if permission shall be granted.

If research by nonschool personnel is to involve students, complete information about the project shall be provided to parents/guardians and students in advance. No student shall be the subject of any research project without the prior written consent of the student's parents/guardians 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 or parent/guardian decision not

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to participate in a research project conducted by nonschool personnel shall be kept private and respected in all cases.

Nothing in this policy shall:

1. Prevent a student who is working under the supervision of a journalism teacher or sponsor from preparing or participating in a survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation without obtaining consent as long as such participation is not otherwise prohibited by law
2. Be construed to prevent a district employee from reporting known or suspected child abuse or neglect as required by state law
3. Be construed to limit the ability of a health professional that is acting as an agent of the school district to evaluate an individual child
4. Be construed to require parental notice or consent for a survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation related to educational products or services for or to students or educational institutions. These products and services include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - College or other postsecondary education recruitment or military recruitment activities
 - Book clubs, magazines and programs providing access to low-cost literary products
 - Curriculum and instructional materials used by district schools
 - Tests and assessments used by district schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students
 - The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities
 - Student recognition programs
5. Be construed to require parental notice or consent for assessments used to collect evidence of what a student knows and is able to do and to measure a student's academic progress toward attaining a content standard
6. Limit the ability of the district to administer a suicide assessment or threat assessment

Any survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation of students shall be consistent with District policy and applicable law.

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

CROSS REFS.: GCS, Professional Research and Publishing
JLDAC, Screening/Testing of Students