

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH STUDIES

The District values the contributions of the research community to the success of District-wide continuous improvement efforts. District cooperation with research studies is contingent upon the degree to which the proposed research meets guidelines for cooperative research as set by the Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, the relevancy of potential findings to the District research agenda and the degree of intrusiveness into the everyday school environment. District cooperation with research studies is further contingent on compliance with the Student Survey and Non-Emergency Examinations or Screenings policy, JOA.

All research studies that involve human subjects must be reviewed and approved by the District Research Priorities Review Board, or its designee, before any activities to facilitate the research can be made with involved parties. Individual participation in the authorized research studies must be voluntary, and individuals must be given accurate information to meet the basic elements of informed consent, as defined by the District, to inform their decision to participate or not. The District's regulatory guidelines for informed consent are attached.

A set of guidelines shall be developed and made available to those members of the external community who seek permission to conduct research studies that utilize District staff, students and/or their families as the human subjects. This information shall comprise the Cooperative Research Application that will be available to researchers upon request. The Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment will establish a process that will ensure prompt handling of requests. This process will include the development and monitoring of a District Research Priorities Review Board that will review and track research efforts that support the District research agenda and existing research efforts underway in the local research community. This research will serve as a basis for District efforts to disseminate research findings throughout the District and to support the research efforts of external organizations in these areas.

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment will also implement procedures to ensure that the findings of the accepted proposals are accessible for dissemination, professional development and general educational purposes to relevant staff for the benefit of the most students possible.

[Adoption date: June 15, 2004]

LEGAL REFERENCES

Strengthening and Improvement of Elementary and Secondary Schools ("No Child Left Behind Act of 2001"); 20 USC 6301 *et seq.*

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC 1232g
Protection of Pupil Rights Act; 20 USC 1232h

CROSS REFERENCES

KK, Visitors to the Schools

JOA, Student Surveys and Non-Emergency Examinations or Screenings