

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Board Policy

BP 6162.8

Instruction

RESEARCH

The Governing Board recognizes that both school and community can benefit from the results of properly designed and conducted research to improve educational programs and practices. Therefore, the District provides its employees and external entities opportunities to conduct research.

Research means a systematic investigation designed to contribute to generalizable knowledge (45 CFR 46.102); specifically, for the purpose of this policy, research includes but is not limited to academic and evaluation studies of programs administered within the District by employees or community partners, and excludes post-secondary students completing a course assignment.

Researchers shall act in accordance with law, Board policy, administrative regulation, and school rules. Consequently, researchers shall respect the privacy rights of students, including their right to refrain from participation in research projects. Researchers shall obtain active, informed consent from each participant or their parent/guardian.

The Superintendent or designee may authorize research projects within the district by external parties or individuals when such research is aligned with district goals and objectives and is likely to benefit the district without disrupting the school program. Data collection activities should take place only during the school calendar's academic terms, and with the exception of observations or shadowing, outside of instructional hours (for students) and outside of paid working hours (for staff).

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy. The Superintendent or designee shall follow the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations (FERPA). The Superintendent or designee shall ensure researchers meet the District's screening requirements of volunteers for the purposes of passing a criminal background check, disclosing whether they are a registered sex offender, and submitting a tuberculosis clearance; the cost shall not be borne by the District. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure researchers submit a written report to the District reflecting the benefits of the research to both school and community.

(cf. 1240 – Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51513 *Personal beliefs*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232h *Protection of pupil rights*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 45

46.102 *Protection of human subjects*

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

USDOE, Family Policy Compliance Office: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco/>

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Barbara, California May 5, 2009; September 8, 2015