

893 – RESEARCH AND SURVEYS IN THE SCHOOLS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of educational research. However, all research studies carried out within the School District of Algoma, using school district or building data of any kind, staff or students as subjects shall be approved in advance by the District Administrator or his/her designee. Only those studies that have value to the school district, either directly or indirectly, shall be approved.

When human subjects are involved in research, there shall be adequate protection of their rights and welfare. The individuals shall not be subjected to serious risk,. The parent (legal guardian) of children who are potential subjects of research or adults if they are subjects will be provided:

- an explanation of procedures and their purposes;
- a description of any possible risks and benefits to be reasonably expected;
- an offer to respond to inquires on procedures; and
- instructions on the right to refuse to participate or to discontinue participation at any time without prejudice.

Participation of students who are not adults shall be by written consent of one parent.

All materials, including books, printed materials, manuals, pictures, tapes and information drawn from electromagnetic sources, used in connection with the research program shall be available for inspection by appropriate district staff and parents (guardians) of the children who are being considered as subjects in this research project.

Nothing in this policy is intended to restrict the routine gathering of the non-confidential opinions of students necessary to plan appropriate programs and curriculum. All student surveys or opinion questionnaires shall be approved by the administration and must guarantee anonymity. When any survey or questionnaire is traceable to an individual student via name, student number or any other method of personal identification, written parent notification by U.S. mail shall be required. Parents who object to such questionnaires or surveys shall be informed that upon written request their child may be exempt from the activity.

Administrative guidelines to implement this policy shall be developed by the District Administrator or his/her designee.

CROSS REFERENCE: No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Adopted: September 23, 2002