

RESEARCH AND OTHER PROJECTS IN THE SCHOOLS

Background

The District recognizes the role of valid research and other projects in the development of educational theories and practices and acknowledges the need of researches to work within the schools.

Before research and other projects are considered for approval by the Superintendent they must be sponsored and supervised by a recognized post-secondary educational institution or a recognized research institute, or must be a component of approved research by District personnel.

Research projects must have the support of the Human Ethics Committees or of committees with similar responsibilities at the respective institutions.

Consideration will also be given to the number of research and other projects that are underway in the District at a given time.

Procedures

1. The Principal Researcher or Project Director must present a detailed proposal of the study/project to the Director of Instruction – Learning and Innovation for approval.
2. The Principal of each school contacted must give approval to the project.
3. Teachers in the project must be supportive of the project and agree to participate.
4. The Principal and staffs involved in specific projects must be made aware of the amount of students' and teachers' time required to complete the project and consider the amount of time to be appropriate.
5. Parents are to be informed of the nature of the project and have an opportunity to respond.
6. Parent approval, through a signed release (Form 290-1), must be obtained before any student may participate. The release must include the following information:
 - Name of Researchers
 - Introduction
 - Purpose
 - Study Procedures
 - Confidentiality
 - Potential Risks
 - Storage of Data
 - Potential Benefits

7. All students, teachers, classes and schools involved in a research study project must be assured of anonymity during the study and in the published data and the interpretation of the data.
8. A copy of the results of the completed study or a report of a project must be presented to the District.

Reference: Sections 22, 65, 85 *School Act*
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

SD No. 40 (New Westminster)

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Modification to this document is not permitted without prior written consent from SD No. 40 (New Westminster)