

Policy 9550 EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Board of Education will cooperate, whenever appropriate and feasible, with organizations and individuals conducting bona fide educational research involving pupils enrolled in the schools of this district.

All educational research by persons other than district employees must be approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee. A written application for approval must state the purpose of the research, the specific ways in which pupils will be involved, the estimated duration of the project, the persons who will conduct the research project and their relevant affiliations, and any possible benefits to pupils or to the school district. Approval will be granted only to those projects that will serve the interests of pupils and the educational program; approval will not be granted to projects that will impede or significantly disrupt the instructional program approved by the Board.

Parents will be informed of any educational research project that involves their children and may request the removal of their children from the project.

The conduct of research activities must rigorously protect pupils' privacy. Approved researchers may be given access to pupil records in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education and Board Policy No. 8330, but shall not abuse this privilege by using information in any way that may embarrass or harm individual pupils or their families. The Board must be satisfied that strict standards of anonymity and confidentiality will be observed.

N.J.A.C. 6:3-6.5

Adopted: 11 June 1997