

EDUCATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRES, SURVEYS AND RESEARCH

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

Pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, no student will be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation which is administered or distributed by a school, and is funded in whole or in part by any program administered by the U.S. Department of Education without the prior written consent of the parent/guardian that reveals information concerning the following:

1. Political affiliations;
2. Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or the family;
3. Sexual behavior and attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

School District Approval

No surveys will be administered without the prior approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee. Any survey created by a third party, or funded, in whole or in part, as part of any US Department of Education administered program, containing one or more of the eight categories listed above will be available to be inspected by a student's parent/guardian before the survey is administered.

Parents/guardians will have the right to deny permission for their child to participate in taking the survey. The school will not penalize students whose parents/guardians exercise this option. The school will take reasonable precautions to protect students' privacy during their participation of any survey, analysis, or evaluation containing one or more of the eight categories listed above.

Parental Notification

Parents will be notified when the school intends on issuing an educational survey. Notice will be given as early as possible before the survey is administered.

Included in the notice will be information regarding how the survey or questionnaire will be administered; how it will be utilized; and the persons or entities that will have access to the results of the completed survey or questionnaire. Parents or guardians wishing to inspect a survey, analysis, or evaluation will be able to do so in the administrative office. Parents may refuse to allow their student to participate before or after reviewing the survey or questionnaire.

School District Use of Data

Administrators, teachers, other staff members and the Board of Education may use surveys for many purposes. Such purposes may include, but are not limited to, the need for student services, the determination of prevailing views pertaining to proposed policies and/or practices, or the determination of student knowledge and/or attitudes related to a specific subject. These are examples of surveys and not intended to be an all-inclusive listing. Administrative approval is required for surveys. Responses will not be used in any identifying manner.

Surveys conducted for other agencies, organizations or individuals must have the recommendation of the Superintendent and the approval of the Board of Education as to content and purpose. The results of such approved surveys must be shared with the Board of Education.

Surveys Requesting Sexual Information

In any case in which a questionnaire or survey requesting sexual information of students is to be administered, the Superintendent will notify parents concerning the administration of such questionnaire or survey in writing prior to its administration. Such notice will inform parents of the nature and types of questions included in the questionnaire or survey, the purposes and age-appropriateness of the survey, and whether and how any findings or results will be disclosed. Parents will have the right to review the questionnaire or survey and to exempt their child from participating in the survey. School personnel administering any such questionnaire or survey will not disclose personally identifiable information. No questionnaire or survey requesting sexual information will be administered to any student in kindergarten through grade six unless required by federal or state law or regulation.

Miscellaneous Provisions

This policy does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

- College or post-secondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
- Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
- Curriculum and instructional materials used by schools;
- Tests and assessments used by schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students, or to generate other statistical data for educational purposes;
- The sale of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; and
- Student recognition programs.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. 1232h; 34 CFR Part 98, Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment
Appendix ILD-R

Original Adopted: March 5, 2008

Reaffirm: March 5, 2014