

Educational Research and Survey of Students

Surveys and educational research can serve as a valuable tool for determining student needs and developing educational services.

Because of the possibility of a large number of outside requests to conduct surveys and research studies, the Superintendent shall only approve requests that at least meet the following criteria:

1. The research/survey is conducted for the purpose of improving the education or general welfare of students.
2. The party proposing the study/survey has a purpose and mission that is in keeping with the district's mission, goals, and objectives.
3. The study/survey proposal is sufficient in scope and depth to justify the use of the time and effort of district students and staff.
4. The party conducting the research/survey will provide a copy of the survey instrument and/or any instructional material that will be used including, but not limited to: textbooks, teachers' manuals, films, software, and/or other supplementary material. Such material must be provided prior to the initiation of the survey/study and in a timely manner, allowing the Superintendent and other relevant school officials ample opportunity to review such material.
5. Neither the study/survey nor its findings are reasonably predicted to exploit or compromise the safety of district students and staff.
6. The party conducting the study/survey agrees to provide a copy of the outcome/results to the District within a reasonable time after the study/survey's completion.

Before approving a study/survey, the Superintendent shall also take into account the amount of instructional time the survey/study will consume, whether it will unduly disrupt the educational environment, the level of supervision the district will have to provide to third parties conducting the survey/study, the amount of protected/confidential information that will be gathered, and whether agency conducting the survey/study has developed appropriate safeguards for collection, protection, disclosure, and use of protected/confidential information.

Teachers may use surveys in classes to determine student knowledge and/or attitudes prior to teaching about a particular subject or a particular unit, provided that administrative approval has been given and provided that responses will not be used in any identifying manner. Surveys used by the District in any experimental program or research project will be subject to any curriculum requirements established by board policy prior to implementation/use.

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

The District shall comply with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, which affords parents specific rights with relation to conducting surveys, collecting and using student information for marketing purposes, and conducting certain physical exams.

Complementary Documents

- FGA, Student Education Records
- GAAA, Curriculum Design and Evaluation
- GCC-E, Model Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment

End of Bismarck Public School District Policy GCC

Adopted: 7/1/2015