
**EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND SURVEYS, INTERVIEWS, ANALYSES, OR
EVALUATIONS OF STUDENTS, FAMILIES OR FACULTY**

The Bangor School Department may cooperate with appropriate agencies, post-secondary institutions, and individuals in undertaking potentially useful research or distribution of research materials to students, families, or faculty in the Bangor schools. However, each research project being initiated and all research materials distributed to students, families, or faculty must have the approval of the principal and the Superintendent of Schools before being distributed.

Approval shall be based upon, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- A. The project should be so designed that it can be expected to produce valid and reliable results.
- B. It should be expected to contribute to the improvement of education generally, and to the Bangor School Department, specifically.
- C. Questionnaires and interview questions must be submitted in advance to the principal and Superintendent of Schools. No student or faculty member shall be required to submit to educational research surveys, interviews, analyses, or evaluations that request or reveal information concerning:
 1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
 2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
 3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
 4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or 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; or
 7. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program, without the prior written consent of the student's parent/guardian, or of the student, if he/she is 18 years of age or older.
- D. Project outlines must be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools and should be of sufficient scope and depth to justify the time and effort to be consumed.
- E. In general, the study must not interrupt the work of pupils or teachers.

Educational Research & Surveys, Interviews, Analyses, or Evaluations of Students, Families or Faculty
- F. In the case of student projects, prior written approval by a faculty member of the institution attended will be required. This faculty member shall have supervisory responsibility related to the student's project.
- G. Prior to distribution, the final report of any approved research projects must be presented to the principal and Superintendent of Schools for the purpose of review and critique.



All instructional materials, including teachers' manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material that will be used in connection with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation shall be available upon request for inspection by the student's parent/guardian. For the purpose of this policy, "instructional material" does not include teacher-generated assessments.

The school unit will notify parents of this policy at least annually at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable time of any substantive change in policy. A parent may inspect, upon request, a surveyor interview items created by a third party before the surveyor interview is administered or distributed to a student. The school unit will also directly notify parents annually at the beginning of the school year, or with sufficient notice to parents, when surveys, analyses, or evaluations are scheduled or anticipated. Parents shall have the opportunity to decline their child's participation in any survey, interview, analysis, or evaluation used for purposes of independent research. Students who are 18 years of age or older may decline to participate in such surveys, interviews, analyses, or evaluations.

The Superintendent/designee will be responsible for implementing any procedures necessary to protect the privacy of participating students and to provide parents with access to surveys within a reasonable time before administration or distribution.

ADOPTED: May 2, 1983
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