

SWEETWATER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

CLASSIFICATION: Student

POLICY: 5123

SUBJECT: Surveys & Research on Students

ADOPTED: May, 1982

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: Student Support Services

REVISED: May, 2004

REFERENCES: Policy 5125; Regulation 5123.1

NEXT REVIEW: 2008

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I. Criteria for Research on Students

Research on students of the Sweetwater Union High School District beyond the conventional testing program (both the district-wide evaluation program and for the purposes of evaluation of the individual student) may be conducted provided it meets the following criteria:

- A. The perceived results of the research effort would be of direct and significant benefit to the students and instructional programs of the district.
- B. The research design has been presented to and approved by the superintendent or his/her designee and all research instruments, including but not limited to questionnaires, surveys, and interview forms, have been submitted to and approved by the superintendent or his/her designee.
- C. No test, questionnaire, survey, or examination containing any questions about the pupil's personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, and religion, or any question about the pupil's parents' or guardians' beliefs and practices in sex, family life, morality, and religion without written affirmative consent from the parent or guardian of the pupil.
- D. A copy of the final research result, including analysis and conclusions, shall be presented to the superintendent.
- E. The board shall have the right to refuse publication rights if it believes that the research was not carried out according to the highest standards of research, that the analysis and/or conclusions presented a biased or incorrect position, or that the research was not carried out according to the approved research design.

II. Passive Parental Consent

Sites administering the survey to grades 7th and higher are eligible to use passive parental consent, rather than active (written) consent as previously required. *Active consent is required for grades below seventh.* Under passive consent procedures, parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver(s) inform the school only if they DO NOT want their child to participate in the survey (called "opting out").

III. Confidentiality of Pupil or Staff Information

In conducting any research on students adequate care shall be taken to protect the privacy rights of individual students or staff records.

VI. Superintendent to Develop Regulation(s)

The superintendent shall formulate such administrative regulations as necessary to implement this board policy.

Legal References: Education Code

§35160

§35172

§51513

Permissive Code

Promotional Activities

Materials Containing Questions About Beliefs