

RELATIONS WITH EDUCATION RESEARCH AND SERVICE CENTERS

The Superintendent is authorized to cooperate insofar as possible with colleges, universities, and other recognized research agencies in promoting potentially useful research. Because of the school system's proximity to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, there is the potential for unusually large numbers of requests for studies in our schools. Accordingly, it may be necessary to limit the number and establish guidelines for the approval of studies. All research request shall be reviewed by the school systems Internal Review Board (IRB).

Generally, decisions in connection with research involving students, teachers, or other employees shall be influenced by the following factors:

- The objectives of the research should be clearly stated and the design should produce valid and reliable results which shall then be made available to the schools of this district;
- The research should be expected to contribute to the improvement of education or the general welfare of students;
- Data derived from school records, interviews, or questionnaires which have potential for invasion of the privacy of students or their families must have advance written authorization of parents/guardians even though the data are to be collected and reported under conditions of anonymity;
- Research proposals should be of sufficient scope and depth to justify the time and effort of students, parents/guardians, and staff members;
- In general, instructional activities shall not be interrupted unless there is a clear significance for the educational program of the schools;
- Projects involving student researchers must have prior written approval by a faculty member of the institution in which the student is enrolled. This faculty member must assume direct responsibility related to the student's research; and
- The school system reserves the right to deny any research request.

Adopted: 04/14/87

Revised: 04/05/11, 10/03/17