

SURVEYS OF STUDENTS

(Adopted 9-20-05)

Surveys can be a valuable resource for schools and communities in determining student needs for educational services. When a survey is used, every effort should be made to ask questions in a neutral manner to ensure the accuracy of the survey as well as the respondents to the survey can not be identified.

Administrators may use surveys to determine enrollment in certain classes. Surveys may be used at the direction of the Board to determine the need for various services to students, or to determine the prevailing attitudes prior to consideration or adoption of school district policies.

Teachers may use surveys in classes to determine student knowledge and/or attitudes prior to teaching provided that administrative approval has been given and provided that responses will not be used in any identifying manner.

Board approval must be given prior to administering a survey that includes reference to any of the factors listed below, and parents shall be given the right to inspect such a survey:

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

Surveys used in any experimental program or research project will be subject to the requirements of Policy GBAA. Parents shall have the right to inspect all instructional material that will be used for a survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of a federal program.

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Surveys conducted for other agencies, organizations or individuals must have the approval of the School Board as to content and purpose and the results of the survey must be shared with the Board. Board approval will not be granted unless the right of a parent of a student to inspect the survey before the survey is administered is guaranteed by the agency, organization, or individual seeking approval of the survey. The Superintendent will develop procedures for granting a request by a parent for reasonable access within a reasonable period of time after the request is received.

Parents/guardians shall be notified of this policy when enrolling students for the first time in district schools and at least annually, at the beginning of the school year. This notification must explain that parent/guardians, or students 18 or older, have the right to opt the student out of participation in writing, in the following activities:

1. The collection, disclosure, and use of personal information gathered from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information. This 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, such as:
 - a. College or other postsecondary education recruitment or military recruitment.
 - b. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products.
 - c. Curriculum and instructional materials used in schools.
 - d. Tests and assessments.
 - e. Student's recognition programs.
 - f. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school related activities.
2. The administration of any survey that delves into the restricted sensitive subject areas identified and listed above.
3. The administration of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school not necessary to protect the immediate health or safety of the student or other students and not otherwise permitted or required by state law. The term invasive physical examination means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

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Parents/guardians of a student shall also have the right to inspect, upon request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum. The term instructional material means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of format. It does not include tests or academic assessments.

Cross Ref: Policy FCAAC Head Lice (Pediculoses)
Policy GAAC Procedure for Review of Instructional Material

Legal Ref: Section 439 of the General Education Provisions Act of 1974 as amended by PL 103-227 Section 1017 20 D.S.C. 1232h(a) Family Education Rights and Privacy Act PL 107-110 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 Protection of Pupil Rights Act as amended by PL 107-110