

## RESEARCH

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The Board of Education recognizes that educational research can be a valuable tool in identifying and applying strategies to enhance student achievement and in identifying factors that could prevent students from becoming contributing members of society. Surveys among student populations can be an important part of this research.

Students and parents/guardians retain certain rights, however, in the administration of surveys. The Board shall ensure a copy of the survey is available for viewing and that prior written consent is obtained from parents/guardians or emancipated students before any survey is administered that is funded in whole or in part by any state or federal source, if the survey (analysis or evaluation) is designed to reveal information on any of the following:

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

Written informed consent shall also be obtained from parent/guardians or emancipated students prior to the administration of any academic or nonacademic survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation that would reveal the student's social security number.

Parents/guardians shall be given the opportunity to inspect any survey, analysis or evaluation that solicits information in any of the above areas, including surveys funded by other than state or federal sources. If parents/guardians object to their child's participation in a survey regarding the above matters, the child shall be allowed to opt out. The chief school administrator shall adopt regulation to protect the confidentiality of all survey respondents.

Prior approval of the chief school administrator is required for all other surveys on topics not listed. Anyone seeking approval of a proposed survey must provide the chief school administrator with details of the survey methodology, its specific educational purpose and a description of how results will be disseminated and applied.

The chief school administrator shall develop regulations to implement this policy that include reasonable timelines for parents/guardians to access and review surveys as prescribed by law, and arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of a survey.

This policy and the regulations shall be made available to the public at least annually at the beginning of the school year, especially to parents/guardians and to district staff. The public shall be informed within a reasonable period of time if substantive change is made to policy and regulations. The public shall also be informed of specific or approximate dates, if known, when surveys may be administered.

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Parent/Guardian Notification

Annual parent/guardian notice shall include an opportunity for the parent/guardian to opt the student out of the following activities:

- A. Activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose;
- B. The administration of any third party (non-Department of Education funded) survey containing one or more of the above described nine items of information.

**Legal References:**

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:4-25	Prescribing minimum courses of study for public schools; approval of courses of study
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-1	Commissioner of education to develop a program of standards and guidelines
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-2	Boards of education; establishment of standards
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-4.1	Operation recognition; purpose; eligibility; application procedure
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-5.1	Boards of education prohibited from excluding students from graduation ceremony or from obtaining yearbook for inability to pay fees
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7F-46	Review, update of New Jersey Student Learning Standards; Educational Adequacy Report
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:33-1	District to furnish suitable facilities; adoption of courses of study
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Curriculum and courses
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-14.9	Pupil promotion and remediation; policies and procedures
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-17	Credit of seniors in active military and naval service, etc.
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Standards and assessment
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-1.2, -2.1, -3.1, -3.3, -4.1, -4.2, -4.3, -5.1, -5.2	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:13-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Programs and practices to support student achievement
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-3.7	Individualized education program
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:14-4.11	Graduation
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:15-1.11	Graduation requirements for English language learners Students
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:20-2.4	Graduation (adult education programs)
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23A-9.5	Commissioner to ensure achievement of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the performance of school districts
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:33-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	School turnaround and improvement

The Department of Education Website, <http://www.nj.gov/njded/assessment/>  
(Lists the state assessment components)

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Pub.L. 114-95, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

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**Possible**

<b><u>Cross References:</u></b>	*1120	Board of Education meetings
	*5113	Absences and excuses
	*5120	Assessment of individual needs
	*5127	Commencement activities
	6000	Concepts and roles in instruction
	*6010	Goals and objectives
	*6122	Articulation
	*6140	Curriculum adoption
	6141.4	Independent study
	*6142	Subject fields
	*6142.2	English as a second language; bilingual/bicultural
	*6142.6	Basic skills
	*6145	Extracurricular activities
	*6147	Standards of proficiency
	*6154	Homework/makeup work
	*6171.4	Special education
	*6200	Adult/community education

\* Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual

NJSBA Issued - 12/16

Adopted/Revised: 1/20/05; 1/19/17; 12/13/18