
RESEARCH STUDIES

Background

The Division recognizes its obligation to share educational experiences and provides opportunities for individuals to interact with the Division and its schools. It recognizes that learning and teaching are improved through research and therefore values its relationships with colleges, universities, agencies and individuals engaged in educational research.

The Division recognizes involvement in three (3) primary models of research:

- Division directed research with Division staff;
- Division initiated research with external partners;
- Research initiated by external individuals or organizations.

It is understood that research occurring as a result of Division direction or research occurring in a school or classroom as a result of school improvement processes must comply with and meet all criteria for Ethics, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy; and Child, Youth and Family Enhancement guidelines. All requests by external individuals or organizations will follow procedures as outlined in this Administrative Procedure.

Procedures

1. All applications and assistance to undertake research projects or surveys within the Division will be submitted to the Office of the Superintendent.
2. Any research study must receive the prior approval of the Office of the Superintendent. Teachers, administrators and other staff are encouraged to cooperate with researchers who have been approved by the Division.
3. If the study involves students, parents must also provide informed consent. In cases where researchers will be interacting directly with students, the researcher is expected to supply a current Criminal Record Check and an Intervention Record Check to the Office of the Superintendent prior to undertaking their work.
4. In determining the acceptance or rejection of a research proposal, the following will be considered:
 - 4.1 Research will be of potential value to teaching and learning within the Division.
 - 4.2 Research conducted will not unduly interfere with the learning environment and the involvement of students or teachers does not require an unreasonable amount of time.
 - 4.3 The content of any proposed questionnaire or survey instrument must not be objectionable to staff, students or parents.

5. Requests to undertake graduate level research or survey studies must be submitted to the Office of the Superintendent representative the Assistant Superintendent of Corporate Services.
6. A letter of approval from a university's ethics approval committee or approval from the Canadian Research Ethics Board is required for all research projects including those that are part of a thesis for a Masters' or Doctoral program.

Reference: Section 11,33,52,53,68,196,197,204,222,225 Education Act
Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act

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