
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 36 (SURREY)

No. 10770

POLICY: RESEARCH IN SCHOOLS

“Research “ is defined as data-based investigation involving individuals or groups of individuals which adheres to the empirical principles of (1) systematic design and process, (2) freedom from bias, (3) subject to structured analysis, and (4) yielding interpretation consistent with findings. [Where data-based is used in a broad sense to include verbal information as well as numeric.]

Research activities include the use of tests or other forms of assessment, checklists, surveys or questionnaires, interviews, audio or video tapes, and observation when these are not part of classroom instruction and evaluation.

The Board of School Trustees will permit educational research activities in schools involving students and/or staff only following a review as outlined in the Regulation and subject to the following principles:

1. Research conducted in schools will be consistent with sound educational practice and meaningful inquiry.
2. Research procedures will meet professional ethical standards including informed consent, voluntary participation, right to withdraw, and confidentiality.
3. Research studies will seek to contribute to a body of relevant knowledge and be mutually beneficial to the researcher and the school or district.
4. Research studies will be methodologically sound, free from bias, and non-partisan.
5. Research studies will avoid contentious or personal topics that could be considered by students, parents/guardians or staff to be an invasion of personal privacy.

Approved: 1997-11-27
