

RESEARCH BY INDIVIDUALS AND/OR INSTITUTIONS

PURPOSE: To establish a process to support educational research.

The Board recognizes the vital relationship between education and research and the benefit to its educational programs and services as a result of quality research endeavors. While recognizing the value of educational research, the Board also has the responsibility to prevent undue disruption to the educational process, to protect the privacy rights of students and staff, and to ensure compliance with state and federal law. Research conducted by researchers must occur in the context of the District's primary obligations of improving the educational process and student learning.

All internal and external research and surveys to be conducted within the Tulsa Public School District and/or request to receive and/or use student or staff data in research or for evaluation purposes must have prior written approval from the District's Research Review Board (RRB). The RRB shall, at a minimum, ensure that the following principles are adhered to:

1. The purpose of the research must be education related and directly linked to the mission of Tulsa Public Schools.
2. The research must demonstrate a tangible benefit to the District.
3. The research must comply with the regulations of this policy.

Research and researchers subject to this policy are defined as (1) Research and/or surveys required for fulfilling the responsibilities of a specific district department or office. (2) Independent research conducted by individuals, organizations, or agencies not affiliated with the District; (3) research conducted by District contractors in accordance with their contract with the District or a memorandum of understanding with a TPS department or school; (4) research conducted by District employees or contract staff for personal purposes outside of their work duties during non-work hours (e.g. research for the completion of a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation or for any other purposes); (5) educational product research conducted by a company or entity to study an educational product's effectiveness for potential sale to the District; and (6) research participation expressly required by federal or state law.

The RRB may establish reasonable fees to charge external researchers for the review and evaluation of proposals and the compilation of data requests as outlined in the regulation of this policy.