

POLICY GUIDE

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Student Surveys, Analysis, ~~and/or~~ Evaluations,
Examinations, Testing, or Treatment

Jan 22

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[See POLICY ALERT Nos. 222 and 226]

2415.05 STUDENT SURVEYS, ANALYSIS, ~~AND/OR~~ EVALUATIONS, EXAMINATIONS, TESTING, OR TREATMENT

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (20 USC §1232h; 34 CFR Part 98) applies to school districts that receive funding from the United States Department of Education (USDOE). The PPRA requires written consent from parents or the emancipated student the opportunity to opt out of participation in a survey, analysis, evaluation, examination, testing, or treatment funded in whole or in part by a program of the United States Department of Education that concerns one or more of the areas outlined in this Policy.

A. Definitions

“Instructional material” means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, including printed or representational materials, audiovisual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments. 20 USC §1232h(c)(6)(A).

“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. 20 USC §1232h(c)(6)(B).

“Prior consent” means prior consent of the student, if the student is an adult or emancipated minor or prior written consent of the parent, if the student is an unemancipated minor. 34 CFR §98.4(b).

“Psychiatric or psychological examination or test” means a method of obtaining information, including a group activity, that is not directly



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related to academic instruction and that is designed to elicit information about attitudes, habits, traits, opinions, beliefs, or feelings. 34 CFR §98.4(c)(1).

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“Psychiatric or psychological treatment” means an activity involving the planned, systematic use of methods or techniques that are not directly related to academic instruction and that is designed to affect behavioral, emotional, or attitudinal characteristics of an individual or group. 34 CFR §98.4(c)(2).

“Research or experimentation program or project” means any program or project in any program that is funded in whole or in part by the Federal Government and is designed to explore or develop new or unproven teaching methods or techniques. 34 CFR §98.3(b).

- B. Parents’ or Emancipated Students’ Right to Inspection of Materials - 34 CFR §98.3 and 20 USC §1232(c)
1. All instructional material, including teachers’ manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary instructional material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program or any research or experimentation program or project shall be available for inspection by the parents of the children engaged in such program or project in accordance with 20 USC §1232h(a) and 34 CFR §98.3(a).
 - a. The district shall provide reasonable access to instructional material within a reasonable period of time after the request is received in accordance with 20 USC §1232h(c)(1)(C)(ii).
 2. The parent shall have the right, upon request, to inspect a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to their student pursuant to 20 USC §1232h(c)(1)(A)(i).



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- a. The district shall provide reasonable access to such survey within a reasonable period of time after the request is received in accordance with 20 USC §1232h(c)(1)(A)(ii).

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3. The parent shall have the right, upon request, to inspect any instrument used in the collection of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information (or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose), before the instrument is administered or distributed to their student pursuant to 20 USC §1232h(c)(1)(F)(i).

- a. The district shall provide reasonable access to such instrument within a reasonable period of time after the request is received in accordance with 20 USC §1232h(c)(1)(F)(ii).

C. Protection of Students' Privacy in Examination, Testing, or Treatment with Prior Consent - 34 CFR §98.4

1. In accordance with 34 CFR §98.4(a) no student shall be required, as part of any program funded in whole or in part by a program of the USDOE, to submit without prior consent to psychiatric examination, testing, or treatment, or psychological examination, testing, or treatment, in which the primary purpose is to reveal information concerning one or more of the following:
 - a. Political affiliations;
 - b. Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or the student's family;



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- c. Sex behavior and attitudes;
- d. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
- e. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
- f. Legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; or

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- g. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under a program.

D. Protections of Students' Rights for Surveys, Analysis, or Evaluation - 20 USC §1232h

- 1. In accordance with 20 USC §1232h(b) no student shall be required, as part of any applicable program, to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation, without prior consent, that reveals information concerning:
 - a. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
 - 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;



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- e. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
 - f. Legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
 - g. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
 - h. Income, (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under a program).
2. Parents' or Emancipated Students' Right to Opt Out - 20 USC §1232h(c)(2)

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- a. The district shall provide notice and offer an opportunity for parents to opt their student out or for emancipated students to opt out of participation in the following activities:
- (1) 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).
 - (2) The administration of any survey containing one or more of the items listed in D.1. above.
 - (3) Any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is:
 - (a) Required as a condition of attendance;



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- (b) Administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
 - (c) Not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.
 - b. The district shall directly notify parents at least annually at the beginning of the school year of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when activities described in D.2.a. above are scheduled or expected to be scheduled in accordance with 20 USC §1232h(c)(2)(B).
- 3. Exceptions – 20 USC §1232h(c)(4)
 - a. The provisions of 20 USC §1232h do 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 or educational institutions, such as the following:

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 - (1) College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment in accordance with Policy 9713;
 - (2) Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
 - (3) Curriculum and instructional materials used by schools in the district;
 - (4) Tests and assessments used by schools in the district to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and



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the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;

- (5) The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; and
- (6) Student recognition programs.

b. The provisions of this Policy:

- (1) Shall not be construed to preempt applicable provisions of New Jersey law that require parental notification; and
- (2) Do not apply to any physical examination or screening that is permitted or required by an applicable New Jersey law, including physical examinations or screenings permitted without parental notification.

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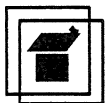
Student Surveys, Analysis, ~~and/or~~ Evaluations,
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4. Policy Adoption or Revision – 20 USC §1232h(c)(2)(A)(i)

The district shall provide this Policy to parents and students at least annually at the beginning of the school year, and provide notice within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change is made to this Policy.

E. Student Privacy – 20 USC §1232h and 34 CFR §98

The district shall ensure a student's privacy is protected regarding any information collected in accordance with this Policy.



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F. Violations of the PPRA – 20 USC §1232h and 34 CFR §98

Parents or students who believe their rights under PPRA may have been violated may file a complaint with the USDOE.

In addition to the provisions of 20 USC §1232h, 34 CFR §98, and this Policy, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure compliance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 and Policy 9560 – Administration of School Surveys before students are required to participate in any academic or nonacademic survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation.

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

20 USC §1232h

34 CFR Part 98

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 USC 2701 et seq.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act

N.J.S.A 18A:36-34

Adopted:



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Student Assessment
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[See **POLICY ALERT** Nos. 197, 205, 209, 211, 220, and 226]

2622 STUDENT ASSESSMENT

State assessments provide parents with important information about their child's progress; detailed diagnostic information about each individual student's performance that educators, parents, and students can utilize to enhance foundational knowledge and student achievement; and include item analysis which will clarify a student's level of knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or area of a subject. The data derived from State assessments are utilized by teachers and administrators to pinpoint areas of difficulty and customize instruction accordingly. Such data can be accessed and utilized as a student progresses to successive school levels.

The Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq. and 18A:7E-2 and 3, may implement assessments of student achievement in any grade(s) and by such assessments as the Commissioner deems appropriate. The system and related schedule of Statewide assessments shall be approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education. The school district shall, according to a schedule prescribed by the Commissioner, administer the applicable Statewide assessments pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c) and (d).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c), all students at grade levels three through twelve, and at any other grade(s) designated by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(a), shall take all appropriate Statewide assessments as scheduled. The school district will provide accommodations or modifications to the Statewide assessment system in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d).

Students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 shall participate in Statewide assessments in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10. The school district shall administer the alternative State assessment for students with disabilities in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d)3.



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The school district shall implement alternative ways for students to demonstrate graduation proficiency in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6, (f), (g), (h), or (i), as applicable.

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Student Assessment

The school district shall maintain an accurate record of each student's performance on Statewide assessments and maintain for every student a ninth grade through graduation transcript in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2(d). The Superintendent shall report assessment results to the public and provide educators, parents, and students with assessment results in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.3.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq.; 18A:7E-2; 18A:7E-3
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1 et seq.; 6A:8-5.1; 6A:14-1.1 et seq.; 6A:14-3.7; 6A:14-4.10



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Adopted:



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TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Political Activities

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[See POLICY ALERT No. 226]

3233 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes and encourages the right of all citizens, including teaching staff members, to engage in political activity. ~~However, t~~The Board prohibits the use of school **grounds premises** and school time, ~~however~~, for partisan political purposes.

The Board establishes the following guidelines to govern teaching staff members in their political activities:

1. A teaching staff member shall not engage in political activity on school **grounds premises** unless permitted in accordance with Board Policy No. 7510 - Use of School Facilities and/or applicable Federal and State laws;
2. A teaching staff member shall not post political circulars or petitions on school **grounds premises** nor distribute such circulars or petitions to students nor solicit campaign funds or campaign workers on school **grounds premises**;
3. A teaching staff member shall not display any material that would tend to promote any candidate for office on an election day ~~on in a~~ school **grounds facility** that ~~are is~~ used as a polling place;
4. A teaching staff member shall not engage in any activity in the presence of students while on school **grounds property**, which ~~activity~~ is intended and/or designed to promote, further or assert a position(s) on labor relations issues.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1., a A teaching ~~certificated~~ staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Senate or General Assembly of the State of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from school district duties, without loss of pay, during the periods of **the teaching staff member's** ~~his/her~~



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attendance at regular or special sessions of the legislature and hearings or meetings of any legislative committee or commission.

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In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.2., a ~~A teaching certified~~ staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Board of **County Commissioners ~~Chosen Freeholders~~ of any county of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from **the teaching staff member's his/her** duties, without pay, during the periods of **the teaching staff member's his/her** attendance at regular or special meetings of the Board of **County Commissioners** and of any committee thereof and at such other times as **the teaching staff member he/she** shall be engaged in performing the necessary functions and duties of **the teaching staff member's his/her** office as a member of the Board of **County Commissioners**.**

No other teaching staff member who holds elective or appointive office is ~~so~~ entitled to time off, except as such time off may be provided for by Board policy or negotiated agreement.

The provisions of this ~~P~~policy do not apply to the discussion and study of politics and political issues appropriate to the curriculum, the conduct of student elections, or the conduct of employee representative elections.

Nothing in this Policy shall be interpreted to impose a burden on the constitutionally protected speech or conduct of a **teaching** staff member or a student.

~~N.J.S.A. 11:17-2~~

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1.; 18A:6-8.2.; 18A:6-8.4.; 18A:42-4

N.J.S.A. 19:34-42

Green Township v. Rowe, Superior Court of New Jersey - Appellate Division
A-2528-98T5



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Adopted:



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Administration of School Surveys

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[See **POLICY ALERT No. 226**]

9560 ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL SURVEYS

The Board of Education believes the administration of school surveys may be necessary and valuable to the educational program in the school district. The Board recognizes certain student information is personal and some students or parents may not want this information shared with the school district. Therefore, the Board shall ensure school surveys are administered in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 and 18A:36-34.1 and this Policy.

A. School Surveys, Certain, Parental Consent Required Before Administration – N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34

1. Unless the school district receives prior written informed consent from a student's parent and provides for a copy of the document to be available for viewing at convenient locations and time periods, the school district shall not administer to a student any academic or nonacademic survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation which reveals information concerning:
 - a. Political affiliations;
 - b. Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or the student's family;
 - c. Sexual behavior and attitudes;
 - d. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
 - e. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom a respondent has a close family relationship;



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- f. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as lawyers, physicians, and ministers;

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Administration of School Surveys

- g. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under a program; or

- h. Social security number.

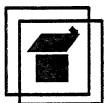
- 2. The school district shall request prior written informed consent at least two weeks prior to the administration of the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation.

- 3. A student shall not participate in any survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation that concerns the issues listed in A.1. above and N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.a. unless the school district has obtained prior written informed consent from the student's parent.

B. Voluntary Survey for Students with Prior Parental Written Notification – N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.1

- 1. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.1 and notwithstanding, N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 and A. above, or any other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, if the school district sends prior written notification to the parent of the student, the school district may administer an anonymous, voluntary survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation to the student which reveals information concerning any of the following issues:

- a. Use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and vaping;
- b. Sexual behavior and attitudes;



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- c. Behaviors that may contribute to intentional or unintentional injuries or violence; or
- d. Physical activity and nutrition-related behaviors.

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Administration of School Surveys

- 2. Written notification provided by the school district to the parent of the student shall be delivered to the parent by regular mail, electronic mail, or a written acknowledgement form to be delivered by the student at least two weeks prior to administration of the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation. Written notification shall contain, at minimum, the following information:
 - a. A description of the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation;
 - b. The purpose for which the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation is needed;
 - c. The entities and persons that will have access to the information generated by the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation;
 - d. Specific instruction as to when and where the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation will be available for parental review prior to its administration;
 - e. The method by which the parent can deny permission to administer the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation to the student; a form specifically providing for such denial shall be included with this notice;



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- f. The names and contact information of persons to whom questions can be directed; and
 - g. A statement advising that failure to respond indicates approval of participation in the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation.
- 3. Information obtained through a survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation administered to a student in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.1 and B. above, shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health. Information may be used to develop public health initiatives and prevention programs. Information shall not be used for marketing or other commercial purposes that are not related to student health.

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C. Violations – N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.d.

A violation by the school district of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34; 18A:36-34.1, and this Policy shall be subject to such monetary penalties as determined by the New Jersey Commissioner of Education.

D. Compliance with Federal Law

In addition to compliance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34, 18A:36-34.1, and this Policy, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure compliance with the provisions of Policy 2415.05 – Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing, or Treatment before students are required to participate in a survey, analysis, evaluation, examination, testing, or treatment funded in whole or part by a program of the United States Department of Education that concerns one or more of the areas outlined in Policy 2415.05.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34; 18A:36-34.1



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Adopted:

