

Important Regulations that Apply to Research in the Public Schools

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA): aka Buckley Amendment; gives parents certain rights over the content of their children's educational records

- Does allow schools to disclose records without consent to certain parties, but only when a school, school district, or state department of instruction initiates the study

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA): amended by the "No Child left Behind Act" of 2001; provide parental control over the content of surveys, instructional materials, analyses, and evaluations of minor students.

Eight topics for which parental permission cannot be waived:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent
2. Mental and psychological problems of the student or the student's family
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parents
8. Income (other than required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program)

Subpart D of the federal regulations, "**Additional Protections for Children Involved as Subjects in Research**" when applicable: not applicable for research funded by NSF