

Teaching for Understanding Project

A team at the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, is doing research to find the best ways to teach for understanding in science. They would like to work with your child's teacher to collect some information in your science classroom on science learning. The likely benefits of the study include suggestions for improvement of science teaching and better levels of understanding for students. They are asking for your consent to collect this data below.

Parental Permission for Voluntary Participation

My son/daughter volunteers to participate in this study and we understand that:

- He or she may be asked to complete an assessment before and after these lessons.
- He or she may be interviewed briefly during or after a lesson so that we can determine how the lesson is working.
- Some sessions may be video or audio tape recorded. Segments may be shared with researchers or used in teacher training but will not be shared with others.
- Students' names will not be used, nor will they be identified personally in any way at any time in the results from this study.
- The results from this study may be included in publications and/or presentations.
- We may review data collected or withdraw from part or all of this study at any time.
- The curriculum will be part of the regular course of study for the class. However, with regard to the data collection aspects for the study described above, we are free to participate or decline participation without prejudice and without affecting the course grade.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Student's signature

Date

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If you would like to speak with someone not directly involved in the research study, you may contact the Human Research Protection Office at the University of Massachusetts via email at humansubjects@ora.umass.edu; telephone (413) 545-3428; or mail at the Human Research Protection Office, Research Administration Building, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 70 Butterfield Terrace, Amherst, MA 01003-9242.

University of Massachusetts Amherst-IRB

(413) 545-3428

Approval Date 7-11-08
Valid Through 7-16-09
IRB Signature Nancy Sweet