Knowledge and Use of Research-Based Practices for Students with

Autism by Paraprofessionals

CONSENT FORM

You are invited to be in a research study of the training on and use of Evidence-Based practices for children and youth with autism by paraprofessionals.

We ask that you read this document and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

This study is being conducted by Dr. Amanda Boutot at Texas State University.

Background Information:

The purpose of this study is to identify paraprofessionals' perceptions on their level of training on and use of evidence-based practices for students with autism in public schools.

Procedure:

If you agree to be in this study, we will ask you to do the following things: complete a 34-item survey (30 items using a rating scale, four open-ended items). Questions include information on the setting in which you work (e.g., self-contained vs. inclusion),

age/grade level of the students with whom you work, and the number of students with whom you work. Other questions ask specific information about your training on and use of specific strategies for teaching students with autism that are based on research. The survey should take not more than 20 minutes of your time.

Risks and Benefits of Being in the Study:

The study has the following risks: First, you may feel uncomfortable answering some of the questions; Second, you may not feel comfortable providing information about your job at this time. Your participation is strictly VOLUNTARY. You are free to skip questions that you do not wish to answer. At any time if you wish to discontinue participation in the study you may do so with no negative impact from me, your

school, or the University.

Benefits to you include increasing your knowledge of current best practices for students with autism. Benefits to society include increased knowledge of the role paraprofessionals play in the education of students with autism as well as their use of research-based practices.

Confidentiality:

Your name will not be required as part of this study. We will not ask for any information that may directly link you with the study. Any information we get as part of this study will be kept In a locked file cabinet in the researcher’s office; no on other than the

researcher has access to this office. This information will be destroyed at the completion of the study.

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CONSENT FORM, Continued

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with your school district or Texas State University.

Contacts and Questions:

The researcher conducting this study is Dr. Amanda Boutot from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

You may ask any questions you have now or if you have questions later, you may contact the researcher at 512-245-2047 or eb15@txstate.edu.

If you want to talk to someone other than the researchers you may contact the Texas State University Institutional Review Board at: 512-245-2314.

If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships.

You will be given a copy of this form to keep for your records.

Statement of Consent:

I have read the above information.  I have asked questions and have received answers.  I consent to participate in the study.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Investigator  or Person Obtaining Consent\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_