Application Number: 2010C6363

Please review the comments below and submit revisions, along with a document that details how you have addressed these concerns, item by item. You are encouraged to see guidance from your faculty advisor. Once you submit the revisions, you application will be reviewed again.

02/13/10 17:39:45

IRB application # 2010C6363 has been reviewed. Unfortunately I am unable to approve of the application at this time due to the following concerns and needed moddifications:

1.      It was difficult to read the consent paragraph due to lack of concept separation.  Please separate out into paragraph form to increase participant readability.

My professor helped me completely revise this: I believe it now complies with your requirements.

2.      Please pay close attention to items#4 & 5 in the IRB checklist and make sure that the first paragraph has the appropriate contact information for the student and faculty member including department along with the term “research”.

Included the word research and made sure that all paragraph content items were moved to paragraph one.

3.      Is there inclusion or exclusion criteria or an age limit? Please clarify in the consent form.

No there is no age limit, it is restricted to employees in support department employees in the district, so age minimum is the same as hiring eligibility , but no limit on highest age. I did not include this criterion so as to not subject employees to concerns about age as a function of employment.

4.      It is good that the number of questions is included however please also indicate a general description of the type of questions included or sample?

I explained the nature of the questions. In the first sentence , that it is designed to discover the staff’s views on CI in the school district. My professor reviewed this with me and we thought it complied with what you asked for.

5.      Please provide information as to the personal benefits  of participation.   Are there perhaps some intangible benefits by just participating?

I was unable to do this. The reason is, that this is a research study on the part of a student, and I cannot justify that the employer will in fact act on it, thus, was unable to state that there is a benefit in participating. While I believe there will be from informal conversations with my superintendent, I do not believe I can make that binding statement in the intro to the potential partcipant. Your sentence posed this as a question, “Are there some intangible benefits..” and given my thoughts (just noted herein) I believed that It would be better not to so state.

6.      Please state information about early withdrawal or voluntarily not answer a question according the language found in IRB checklist item#18.

We made this correction in the survey.

7.      Just because a participant starts the survey does not necessarily indicate consent. Please pay close attention and modify the internet form to reflect the suggestions of item # 27 of the IRB checklist.

I believe we addressed this.

8.      In view of items # 22 & 23, please provide the participant with information as to who will have access to the data and how it will be stored. At Texas State or in the Leander school district?

This was addressed: will be stored at Survey monkey site.

I encourage the student researcher to also contact the faculty advisor to ensure that all of the items in the IRB checklist have been sufficiently addressed. I will be happy to review any revised documentation in support of this application.

This was done, we sat side by side and worked on this.

02/21/10 17:22:41

The online application (not include in the synopsis) indicates that there is a interview as part of the study’s protocol. Is that the case? If so, you need to address this in the (1) synopsis and (2) include the interview protocol in the application.

I eliminated this method.

While minimal risk to participate is noted, what resources are there if participants are uneasy with the survey process, specifically with some of the questions? A list of resources within the area should be included, in case there is a need to seek counseling, etc.

This is included in the second paragraph (can call university if questions).

The proposal indicates that it has already received approval from the Superintendent. Please provide documentation to substantiate this claim.

This was uploaded.