



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
AND HUMAN SERVICES

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am writing to ask your permission to ask your child to take part in a research study at The Maxson School. This study looks at students' beliefs and school performance. If you give this permission, I also ask your permission to review your child's school records.

The enclosed Informed Consent document gives more information.

To give your permission for me to ask your child to join in the study, please sign and return the enclosed Informed Consent document to Ms. Diana Ortiz in the Principal's office by May 1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peggy Brady-Amoon  
Associate Professor



Informed Consent

Approval Date

**The Researcher:** The researcher is Margaret (Peggy) Brady-Amoon, a faculty member at Seton Hall University, in the Department of Professional Psychology and Family Therapy and the College of Education and Human Services.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this informed consent is to permit Dr. Brady-Amoon to ask your child to be in a study and to get information from her school records. The purpose of this study is to learn more about students' beliefs and school success.

**Procedures:** The study will take place at The Maxson School during the school day and will take less than one hour to complete. The researcher will give each student a packet of surveys and a cover sheet with the same code number on both. Students will be asked to write their name on the survey cover page only. Students will also be asked to complete the surveys. The researcher will also collect information from students' school records.

**Surveys:** The surveys that will be used are 1) the *Multigroup Ethnic Identity Measure-Revised* (MEIM-R), a survey of students' ethnic/cultural identity; 2) two parts of *The Self Perception Profile for Adolescents*, a measure of academic and global self-esteem; 3) a middle school version of the *College Self-Efficacy Inventory* (CSEI) that asks students how well they think they can succeed in school, 4) the Self-Estimates subscale of the *Self-Directed Search* in which students rate their own abilities in a variety of areas; 5) the *Children's Hope Scale* which measures a child's hope in the future; and 6) the *Reynolds Adolescent Adjustment Screening Inventory*, which measures adjustment. Some examples of the types of questions/statements to which students will be asked to respond are "I have a strong sense of belonging to my own ethnic group" (from the MEIM-R). As another example, a statement on the CSEI reads "I can do well on exams." Parents or guardians may make an appointment with the researcher to review the instruments.

**Voluntary Participation:** Parents have the right to say yes or no to this request to ask their child to think about taking part in this research study. If their parents say yes, students have the right to say yes or no to joining in this study. There is no penalty for saying no and students who say yes may stop at any time without penalty.

**Confidentiality:** Every effort will be made to protect student's privacy. Students will write their names only on the survey packet cover page. Each cover page and survey packet will have code number. The researcher will collect students' cover pages and surveys separately. She is the only person who will have students' names and code numbers. The researcher will save the cover sheets with students' names and code numbers and a summary of that information in a locked

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file cabinet in her office separate from the completed surveys. That information will be shredded 3 years after the research is complete. The researcher will share only group information. She will not share individual information.

**Risk:** Most students enjoy filling out surveys. However, a student might get upset during the study. If a student becomes upset, she can stop and talk with a supportive adult in the school or call you. For more serious concerns, parents/guardians may call the Helpline established by the Mental Health Association of New Jersey at (866) 202-HELP.

**Benefits:** There are no direct benefits for taking part in this study. The results of this study may help more students reach their goals.

**Compensation:** There is no direct compensation for participation.

**Contact information:** If you have questions about this study or would like to see a copy of the survey, please contact the researcher, Margaret Brady-Amoon, at [Margaret.brady-amoon@shu.edu](mailto:Margaret.brady-amoon@shu.edu) or 973-275-2732. This project has been approved by the Seton Hall University Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects Research (IRB). The IRB believes that the research procedures adequately safeguard the subject's privacy, welfare, civil liberties, and rights. The Chairperson of Seton Hall University's IRB, Mary F. Ruzicka, Ph.D., may be reached at (973) 313-6314; [irb@shu.edu](mailto:irb@shu.edu)

To give permission for me to ask your child if she would like to take part in this study, please sign and return the document to Ms. Diana Ortiz in the Principal's office. You may keep or request a copy of this form.

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

**Please print:**

Maxson Middle School Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Seton Hall University  
Institutional Review Board

JUL 24 2014

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