

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING OF STUDENTS

In order to identify the needs of children whose adjustment to school is complicated or thwarted by apparent emotional upset, the board authorizes the use of psychological testing services under professionally controlled circumstances that meet state requirements.

Projective psychological testing shall be given a child only with parental knowledge. This level of inquiry presumes that other inquiry has already been made and that teachers and other professionals who have worked with the child find further investigation needed. Therefore, the medical inspector of the school system shall have sole authority to recommend psychological testing. The following steps are prerequisite to his/her granting permission:

1. Social work contact with the parent to determine the availability of the parents and the cooperation that may be expected in helping the child.
2. Preliminary testing to discern intellectual functioning and surface personality behavior patterns.
3. Contact with the family physician, if there is one, and if the family wants him informed.
4. Approval of the director of pupil services coordinator.

Use of results:

The administration shall develop proper safeguards to restrict the use of the results of psychological studies to authorized personnel within and outside the school district.

Psychological reports released to schools shall include only information that is useful to school personnel, including the strengths of the child. Results of psychological tests will be discussed with parents as found desirable, and when results are requested by the parent.

Current practice codified 1975
Adopted: date of manual adoption

Department of Public Schools, Augusta, Maine