

## **AISD Research Topics 2008-2009**

AISD supports a wide range of research projects including those concerning curriculum and instruction, academic achievement, professional development and other many other topics in education, educational psychology, and developmental psychology.

This year the Superintendent's Cabinet has expressed particular interest in research and evaluation projects that focus on these topics:

1. Projects concerning teachers' ability to use student data for objective setting & instructional decision-making.
2. Projects concerning the challenges students face at various transition points, e.g., from elementary to middle school, from middle school to high school.
3. Projects concerning the relationship between employment during high school, success in the job market, high school graduation, and the transition to postsecondary enrollment.
4. Projects concerning support for teachers during the instructional day: e.g. supplemental funding, supplemental staffing, professional development, pay for substitutes, etc.
5. Projects that bring program dollars to the district or that sustain programs that are known to be effective.
6. Projects that examine parent involvement and community engagement.
7. Projects that examine best practices at high achieving, high needs campuses.

Because there are many projects concerning these topics, and others, currently implemented in the district, all new proposals are reviewed from the perspective of seeking opportunities to collaborate with external researchers whose projects overlap substantially with our own, to avoid duplication of effort, to reduce the data collection burden for staff and students, and to maximize efficiency. See [http://www.austinisd.org/inside/docs/ResearchEvaluation\\_Partnership\\_Letter\\_Walker.pdf](http://www.austinisd.org/inside/docs/ResearchEvaluation_Partnership_Letter_Walker.pdf).