

Parent Permission Form



Study Title: The Impact of the iPad2 on Education in the North Fond du Lac School District

IRB Approval File Code: L111211019Q

Researchers:

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You are being asked to allow your child to take part in a research study carried out by Assistant Professors Jenna Linskens and Malia Hoffmann. Please read this form carefully, taking as much time as you need. Ask the researcher to explain anything you don't understand. This study has been approved for human subject participation by the Marian University Institutional Review Board (IRB).

You may refuse to give permission, or you may withdraw your permission for your child to be in the study, for any reason. Your child will also be asked if he or she would like to take part in this study. Even if you give your permission, your child can decide not to be in the study or to leave the study at any time.

What is this research study about?

This research study is being done to evaluate the impact the iPad2 has on student learning, engagement and motivation in the classroom. It also will evaluate the impact the iPad2 has on teacher efficiency, and effectiveness of teacher lesson planning and implementation in the classroom.

If you are a parent of an Elementary or Middle School student, we are asking your permission for your child to be in the study because your child's classroom has been chosen to participate in the study.

If you are a parent of a Class of 2014 High School student we are asking for your permission because your child has been randomly chosen from four pools divided by academic rank (Overall GPA). As a parent of a High School student if you choose not to allow your child to participate that is acceptable, another student will be randomly chosen from the four pools until a minimum of 12 parents and students have agreed to the study. There is no pressure for you to agree to this study.

Taking part in the study will take about four months from beginning to end.

Your child cannot take part in this study if they are not in the Elementary or Middle School class that has been chosen by the researchers or by the administration of the North Fond du Lac School District or if your child is not in the Class of 2014.

What will my child be asked to do if he or she is in this research study?

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If your child takes part in the study, and is in the elementary or middle school classroom that has been chosen he or she will be asked to take a brief pre and post study survey on the impact of the iPad, or lack of iPad in the classroom. If your student is in high school they will take a pre & post survey and they also be asked to keep a daily journal of how they are using the iPad for learning using IRB approved journal prompts.

Are there any benefits to my child if he or she is in this research study?

There is no direct benefit to your child from being in this study. However, by participating in the study, the information your child provides will help inform the school board, administration and teachers of North Fond du Lac to determine the best course of action for the students and staff related to future technology implementation. Results from the study will help determine if the NFDL school district should pursue funding for additional iPads for staff and students to use with more grades / classrooms. The information gathered in this study may also help other school districts in Wisconsin and elsewhere in determining the implementation of iPads in education.

Are there any risks to my child if he or she is in this research study?

The potential risks from taking part in this study include the loss of time or inconvenience. To minimize this risk, student surveys should take no more than 10-15 minutes of their time and will be completed during the school day. For high school students, the journal prompts will be provided and should take no more than 5-10 minutes of their time.

Another potential risk is emotional discomfort or distress. To minimize this risk, students will be told they can skip any questions or discontinue the survey at any time. To minimize the risk of discomfort to the high school students for the daily journal they will be told they can reply to prompts they feel comfortable answering and give short or detailed responses. If students share information deemed inappropriate to the study or of concern, the researchers will refer the matter to the high school principal and high school guidance counselor for follow-up.

Lastly, the breach of confidentiality is another possible risk. To minimize this risk all surveys will be done in Google Forms asking for a student code that will be assigned by the teacher or researchers. A Master List that links your child to their code will be kept separate from all other identifiers and in a locked cabinet in the researchers' office. To minimize this risk to the high school students that are writing the journal entries, each student will be given a private Dropbox folder to save all journal prompts that will only be shared with the Researchers. Students will be told not to share their Dropbox login information with anyone.

Will information about my child be kept private?

The survey data for this study is being collected using codes that identify the student by name, grade level and iPad or non-iPad group. The Master list will be kept separate. No other personal information will be collected for this study.

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The journals used for this study will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by federal and state law. High School students providing journals will be provided with a secured Dropbox that only the individual student and researchers can access.

Other members, including the Marian University IRB and the administration from North Fond du Lac and the North Fond du Lac School Board may request data. No published results will identify you, and your name will not be associated with the findings. Under certain circumstances, information that identifies you may be released for internal and external reviews of this project.

The results of this study may be published or presented at professional meetings, but the identities of all research participants will remain anonymous.

The data for this study will be kept for three years, or until June 1, 2015. All data will be kept in a locked cabinet or on a secured computer. After June 1, 2015 all data will be destroyed.

Are there any costs or payments for your child being in this research study?

There will be no costs to your child for taking part in this study.

Your child will not receive money or any other form of compensation for taking part in this study.

What are my child's rights as a research study volunteer?

Your child's participation in this study is completely voluntary. Your child may choose not to take part in this study, choose not to answer specific questions, or leave the study at any time. The child will still take part in all classroom activities including regular classroom tests and quizzes, but will not be asked to take the pre or post surveys regarding the iPads. If your child chooses not to participate or continue in the study all data gathered, including the journals, will be destroyed and the information will not be used in the study.

There will be no penalty or loss of benefits to which you or your child are entitled if you choose not to give your permission for your child to take part or your child withdraws from the study.

Who can I talk to if I have questions?

If you have questions about this study or the information in this form, please contact the researchers Jenna Linskens (jalinskens67@marianuniversity.edu or cell (920) 540-7629) or Malia Hoffmann (mmhoffmann74@marianuniversity.edu or cell (920) 246-7192). If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or would like to report a concern or complaint about this study, please contact the Marian University IRB Administrator at (920) 923-8796, or e-mail orsp@marianuniversity.edu, or regular mail at Marian University, ORSP, 45 S. National Avenue, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

What does my signature on this consent form mean?

Your signature on this form means that:

- You understand the information given to you in this form

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- You have been able to ask the researcher questions and state any concerns
- The researcher has responded to your questions and concerns
- You believe you understand the research study and the potential benefits and risks that are involved for your child.
- You understand that even if you give your permission, you child may choose not to take part in the study.

If you choose to participate in this study, please sign the attached form and return to the North Fond du Lac administration office no later than Monday, November 14, 2011. You may keep this page for your records.

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Parent Permission Form

Please return the signed Consent Form to your Child's Teacher no later than December 9, 2011

Statement of Consent

I give my voluntary permission for my child to take part in this study. I will be given a copy of this consent document for my records.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Printed Name of Parent or Guardian

Statement of Person Obtaining Informed Consent

I have carefully explained to the parent of the child being asked to take part in the study what will happen to their child.

I certify that when this person signs this form, to the best of my knowledge, he or she understands the purpose, procedures, potential benefits, and potential risks of his or her child's participation.

I also certify that he or she:

- Speaks the language used to explain this research
- Reads well enough to understand this form or, if not, this person is able to hear and understand when the form is read to him or her
- Does not have any problems that could make it hard to understand what it means for his or her child to take part in this research.

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent

December 1, 2011

Date

Jenna Linskens and Malia Hoffmann

Co-Researchers

Printed Name of Person(s) Obtaining Consent

Role in the Research Study