So You Want to Do Research in Schools?
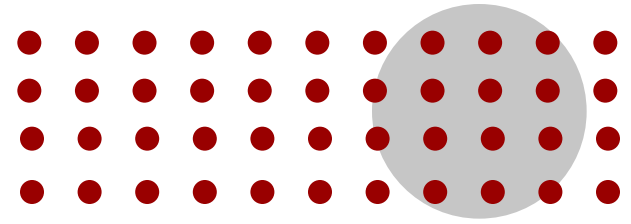
Kimberly Lightle
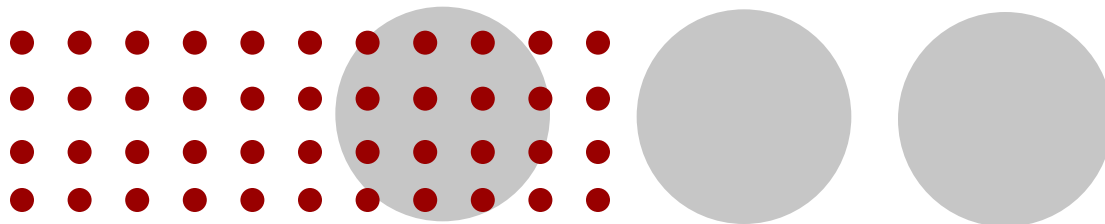
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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY
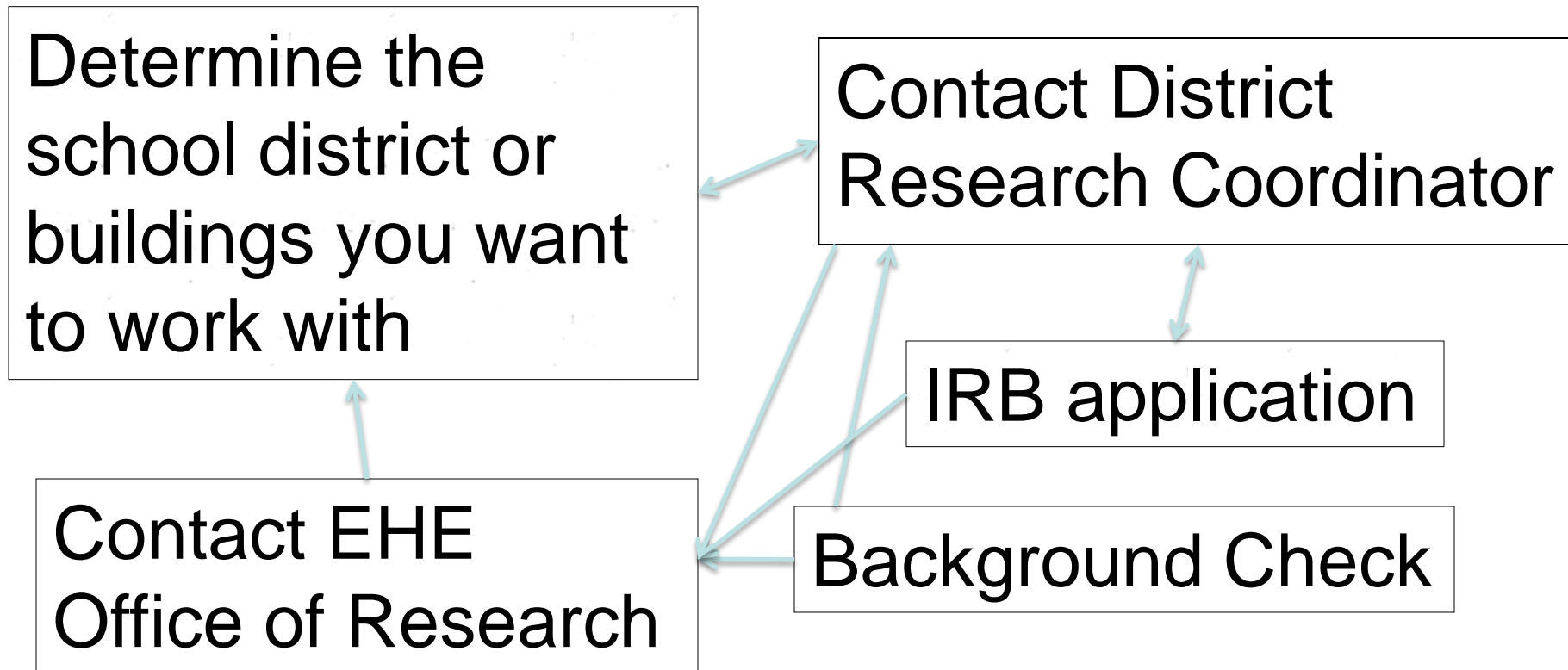
What is EHE Office of Research's Role?

- Ensure researchers have proper documentation as required by IRB, the university and college, individual school districts, and state of Ohio policies;

- Provide a record of research activities between EHE/OSU and individual school districts;

- Document required information to trigger the issuance of fee authorization credits for eligible schools; and

- Make sure researchers share the results of their work with districts.

Where to Start?
With Everything!

Determine the school district or buildings you want to work with

Contact District Research Coordinator

IRB application

Contact EHE Office of Research

Background Check

What District/Schools?

- High needs?
  - Teacher Cancellation Low Income Directory
  - Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates
  - State of Ohio designations (attached doc)
- % of underrepresented populations?
- Typology of Ohio school districts

Typologies

		2013 School Districts Typology		
2013 Typology Code	Major Grouping	Full Descriptor	Districts Within Typology	Students Within Typology
1	Rural	Rural - High Student Poverty & Small Student Population	124	170,000
2	Rural	Rural - Average Student Poverty & Very Small Student Population	107	110,000
3	Small Town	Small Town - Low Student Poverty & Small Student Population	111	185,000
4	Small Town	Small Town - High Student Poverty & Average Student Population Size	89	200,000
5	Suburban	Suburban - Low Student Poverty & Average Student Population Size	77	320,000
6	Suburban	Suburban - Very Low Student Poverty & Large Student Population	46	240,000
7	Urban	Urban - High Student Poverty & Average Student Population	49	225,000
8	Urban	Urban - Very High Student Poverty & Very Large Student Population	6	185,000

State-Provided Data

Interactive Local Report Card (iLRC)

- District Level
    - 2011-2012 Local Report Card
        - % of proficient students
            - How did sub-groups perform?

- School Level
    - Building Ratings

- Power User Reports

Red Flags
[Values/Benefit/Cost]

- Political/sensitive issues
- Utilization of instructional time
- After-school activities which require school personnel supervision
- Additional work for the school district (although sometimes they can collect data for the researcher)
- Teachers are collecting data
- Cash incentives

IRB Considerations

- Human subjects research includes:

  – Intervening or interacting with living individuals for research purposes;

  – Obtaining individually identifiable private information for research purposes; or

  – Receiving a direct federal grant to support human subjects research.

IRB Considerations

- Approval is not based solely on contributing to generalizable knowledge.
  - If you are doing human subjects research and even if do not plan on publishing the information you still need IRB approval.
  - A reverse scenario is that you can publish an article on quality improvement and not need IRB approval.
- When in doubt – check the website and ask!
  - http://orrp.osu.edu/irb/guidance/PIGuideChapt2.cfm

IRB Considerations

- IRB applications requires letters from schools or the district you list on your application

- If the district requires you to change your protocol then you will have to amend your IRB application (but you can't amend exempt applications…)

- Don't ask teachers to collect data…

IRB Open Office Hours

- Every Wednesday, 215-A PAES Building, 1-3pm
  - Sessions are intended to help faculty and graduate students navigate IRB forms, policies, and review procedures. No appointment is necessary. Please contact Joni Barnard at (614) 688-3405 or barnard.15@osu.edu for questions or more information.

- Additional Training – check the University Office of Research calendar
  - http://researchcalendar.osu.edu/index.php

EHE Requested Information

- <u>Information Form</u>
  - Research start and end dates
  - IRB approval number
  - Estimate of the total number of hours you expect to spend with staff and students
  - What schools/district you want to work with
- <u>Application Materials</u>
  - Prospectus, Instruments, Background Check

Background Checks

- Baseline BCI and FBI criminal background check are required for all teachers –
    - **Section 3319.291 – working with children in a public/charter school setting OR working with children in a childcare center.**

- All districts adhere to the same policy

- University Police & Public Safety Office in [Blankenship Hall](#)

- 9-11am and 1-3pm -- Tues, Wed, Thurs

Letters of Collaboration

- Need letter(s) from district research coordinators outlining how the district will participate
  - Provide a template with choices on how they might participate
- I can also write a letter of collaboration

Additional Resources

- [Research in Schools Workshop Page](#)
- [Office of Responsible Research Practices](#)