



January 22, 2019

Dear Mr. Gregory Tatum:

In order to qualify for the completion of the College of Saint Elizabeth's Masters Program in Educational Leadership, a candidate must prepare an action research on a problem relevant to the practice of educational leadership that demonstrates application of the content of the program. Michael DiPaolo has met the aforementioned requirement. The purpose of his action research is to determine how anxiety affects student performance in an AP classroom. In addition, he is attempting to assess the impact strategies to lessen anxiety in AP Physics at Union High School.

The following research questions will guide the action research project:

1. What are the perceptions of students and teachers regarding the source of stress in an AP classroom
2. What are teachers and students doing to lessen anxiety?
3. How is anxiety and stress affecting student academic performance?

He will be conducting surveys, interviews, and focus groups with the appropriate student population groups.

Before Michael DiPaolo can proceed with his research, the College of Saint Elizabeth requires your approval and the approval by the board of education.

If you have questions, please contact me at [DSLaraia@cse.edu](mailto:DSLaraia@cse.edu) or at 917-407-6019.

Sincerely,

Deirdre Spollen-LaRaia, Ed.D.  
Adjunct Professor, CSE