Self-Study & Teacher Inquiry
(Inquiry-Based Research, Teacher Research)

Self-Study
1. Excellent Overviews and Method

2. Guidelines for Self-Study Research
   b. Definition of Self-Study Research:
      i. [A self-study is] a generally agreed upon set of insider research practices that promote teachers taking a close, critical look at their teaching and the academic and social development of their students . . . [A self-study] involves classroom teachers in a cycle of inquiry, reflection, and action. In this cycle, teachers question common practice, approach problems from new perspectives, consider research and evidence to propose new solutions, implement these solutions, and evaluate the results, starting the cycle anew. (Liewison, 2003, p. 100)

Teacher Inquiry
REB Review: Exemptions

1. TCPS 2 Scope of Research Requiring REB Review
   a. The following distinguishes research requiring REB review from non-research activities that have traditionally employed methods and techniques similar to those employed in research. Such activities are not considered “research” as defined in this Policy, and do not require REB review. Activities outside the scope of research subject to REB review (see Articles 2.5 and 2.6), as defined in this Policy, may still raise ethical issues that would benefit from careful consideration by an individual or a body capable of providing some independent guidance, other than an REB. These ethics resources may be based in professional or disciplinary associations, particularly where those associations have established best practices guidelines for such activities in their discipline.
   b. For Research exempt from Research Ethics Review, see Chapter 2.
   c. In most cases, self-study and teacher inquiry falls under a category of “Exempt from REB Review” (see above from TCPS 2).

2. One of the revisions from TCPS 1 to TCPS 2 was a close look at the Exemptions as it became clear that many practices, including most of teaching, are self-governed by professional Codes of Ethics (e.g., BCTF). And in most cases what is submitted to Review Boards (e.g., UBC RISE @ BREB) falls under the category of Minimal Risk.