

About SIRS

SIRS began in the early sixties through the collaborative efforts of WASA, WSSDA, AWSP, and the ESDs.

In 1975, the legislature recognized the need for a service that would provide current research and data relating to administrative responsibilities in the public schools by authorizing school districts to pay for such services. RCW 28A.320.110 authorizes school districts to “become members of a non-profit organization whose principal purpose is to provide information on school organization, administration, operation, finance, and instruction.”

SIRS members include Washington State public school districts, educational service districts, and public educational management/leadership associations serving on the SIRS Board of Directors. Currently, there are over 200 SIRS members. The annual fee for school district membership is based on district size. Strategic planning and the increased use of technology have resulted in program efficiencies, allowing SIRS to keep fees low.

The 2024–25 dues are:

ENROLLMENT	ANNUAL DUES
0–500	\$ 285
501–1,000	\$ 405
1,001–2,500	\$ 525
2,501–4,100	\$ 755
4,101–6,200	\$ 985
6,201–10,000	\$1,215
10,001–15,000	\$1,440
15,001+	\$1,665
ESDs	\$ 530
Organizations	\$ 530

SIRS 2024–25 Board of Directors

ESD REPRESENTATIVES

101	Travis Hanson, Mead
105	Doug Burge, Zillah
112	Elyse Mengarelli, Glenwood
113	Jon Tienhaara, South Bend
114	Dana Rosenbach, North Mason, President
121	Susan Leach, Riverview
123	Mark Pickel, Starbuck
171	Vacant–TBD
189	Chrys Sweeting, Arlington
At-Large	John Hannah, Morton, Past President

ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

ESDs	Flip Herndon, ESD 113
AWSP	Macy Bruhy
WASA	Vacant
WSSDA	Vacant
WASBO	Kalin Heath, Secretary

SIRS STAFF

Executive Director	Tim Garchow tgarchow@wasa-oly.org
Executive Assistant	Heather Chard hchard@wasa-oly.org
Business and Infrastructure Manager	Evelyn Johnson ejohnson@wasa-oly.org

SCHOOL INFORMATION AND RESEARCH SERVICE

The Reliable Information Network

OUR MISSION

SIRS is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing data and information on school organization, administration, operation, finance, and instruction to specifically meet the needs of superintendents, central office administrators, principals, and school board members.



PO Box 14459 • Tumwater, WA 98511
360.489.3642 • 800.859.9272
www.wasa-oly.org/wasa/SIRS

*SIRS contracts with the Washington Association
of School Administrators (WASA)
for Management Services.*

Research Services

Superintendents (or their designees) of SIRS school districts may request research for their school district on education-related topics. A membership in SIRS enables districts to save time, money, and staff effort by receiving information needed to make informed decisions. In the past, research topics have included:

- Student discipline and absences.
- Educational settings, curriculum, and technology for delivering alternative education opportunities.
- Research and best-practices for curriculum, instruction, and assessment for teaching high school physics.
- Evaluation of block scheduling.
- Socioeconomic level of families as it relates to K–12 school performance trends and successful interventions in reading, writing, and math.
- Religion in the schools.
- Grade organization.
- Freedom of expression.
- Class size.
- Cultural dress-code policy for graduation.
- Alternative assessments.
- Individual learning plans for at-risk students.



IF YOUR DISTRICT WOULD LIKE TO JOIN SIRS,
PLEASE CALL 800.859.9272

Leadership Information

Leadership Information (LI) is a series of monthly and quarterly articles that will help to shape and inform your educational leadership practice. These articles will contain relevant school information research on the best practices being utilized in today's educational setting.

SIRS has partnered with the Hanover Research institute to provide this service to our members.

Each month a new article will be released on the website pertaining to a current educational topic. In addition to the monthly articles, the Hanover group will provide quarterly (themed) articles. These articles will offer a deeper understanding and research of an educational topic. The articles will be released to the SIRS website for our members benefit.

Several past articles provided were:

- Fostering Safe and Inclusive Workplace Communities
- Establishing Structures for Student Voice
- Inclusive Teacher Recruitment and Retention Practices

Visit <https://:wasa-oly.org/WASA/SIRS>
to view samples of Leadership Information publications.

As SIRS is a district and association membership organization, all publications, and communications are sent to the school district superintendent or association CEO. He or she determines how SIRS publications will be distributed.

SIRS Salary Survey Reports

SIRS annually compiles and publishes a timely salary-and-benefits report of Washington's school employees in three parts: 1) administrators, 2) classified personnel, and 3) teachers. SIRS is introducing, new in 2019–20, an additional longitudinal report presenting the past 10-years Washington State school employee salary information. The quality of data, through the self-reporting SIRS survey, will help facilitate valuable trend analysis for any district. The longitudinal tool is presented in an easy to use Microsoft Excel workbook and utilizes pivot charts and slicing tools to better visualize trends and comparisons amongst pertinent comparable districts.

Only SIRS members can access the full online surveys. The Excel spreadsheets, allowing members to create specialized reports by grouping information for any position from any size district.

Legislative Handbook

The SIRS Legislative Handbook is an annual guide to the Washington State Legislature. It provides school administrators and professional associations with information about our state government including directories (with pictures of our legislators and congressional delegation), direct links to websites and email addresses, legislative district maps, committee membership, caucus leadership, legislative staff, advocacy tips, sample letter/email, an explanation of how a bill becomes a law, and much more. The handbook is available to SIRS members and can be downloaded and distributed to your staff.

All SIRS services described in this brochure are provided as a part of SIRS membership.