



OUR MEMBERS

Archdiocese of Milwaukee
 Association of Christian Schools
 International
 Christian Schools International
 Diocese of Green Bay
 Diocese of La Crosse
 Diocese of Madison
 Diocese of Superior
 Lutheran Church Missouri Synod:
North Wisconsin District
 Lutheran Church Missouri Synod:
South Wisconsin District
 Wisconsin Association of
 Independent Schools
 Wisconsin Conference of Seventh
 Day Adventists
 Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod:
Northern Wisconsin District
 Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod:
Western Wisconsin District
 Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod:
Southeastern Wisconsin District
 Associate Members



FAST FACTS

- 12% or 122,949 Wisconsin K-12 students attend private schools.
- The vast majority of private school students are enrolled in grades K-8, and graduate on to attend public high schools.
- WCRIS schools enroll 83% of all private K-12 students in Wisconsin.
- WCRIS schools employ more than 6,000 teachers.
- If there were no private K-12 schools, Wisconsin state and local taxes would have to rise more than \$1 billion to pay for the students' education in public schools.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

WCRIS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Help protect private schools by making your tax-deductible contribution today.

CONTACT US AT:

Wisconsin Council of Religious &
 Independent Schools
 110 East Main Street, Suite 802
 Madison, WI 53703
 (608) 287-1224

www.wcris.org

Committed to a Higher Standard



Wisconsin Council
 of Religious & 
 Independent Schools

Committed to a Higher Standard



WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1974, the Wisconsin Council of Religious & Independent Schools (WCRIS) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan government relations organization representing 100,000 K-12 students in 600 Catholic, Lutheran, Christian, Seventh Day Adventist and independent schools across the state.

WCRIS is a member of the Council for American Private Education (CAPE), our national affiliate that monitors federal legislation and advocates on our behalf in Washington, D.C.

WHAT WE DO


- Seek equitable access to educational opportunities;
- Ensure that public policies advance fairness and justice;
- Defend the right of parents to select the best education for their children;
- Defend the right of schools to pursue their unique missions;
- Facilitate communication and collaboration among our schools, their leaders and the communities we serve.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Helping amend the state constitution to provide equitable busing for private school children;
- Gaining inclusion for private schools in the federal E-rate and state TEACH educational technology programs;
- Advocating for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program to include religious schools and to expand statewide;
- Protecting private school students' access to federal special education services;
- Providing professional development and support for private school administrators;
- Helping create a Wisconsin tax deduction for K-12 tuition expenses, saving private school parents an estimated \$30 million annually.

SOME HISTORY

- Early Wisconsin education was primarily private or religious. It brought mass schooling and literacy to the state well before the public school system was created.
- WCRIS was founded as the Wisconsin Association of Nonpublic Schools in 1974 by a group of Catholic, Independent Christian and Lutheran school leaders who had first organized in the 1960s to advocate for equitable busing for private school students.

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