

Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation

ACCREDITATION NEWS 2024-25



New Website Implementation

WRISA has been working diligently to provide our schools a fresh and user friendly website! The project has had some ups and downs, but was used for all Annual Reports and visiting team reports for 2 years.

The <https://wrisapk.wpengine.com/> link will be discontinued in November and the WRISA site will be found at the wrisa.net permanent location.

The following updates were implemented recently ...

- The speed of the website has been improved tremendously!
- Site is always "open" to allow schools to upload teacher information year round
- Cover Sheets and Invoices are now printed with reports
- All visiting team documents automatically print out in the final report
- Standards can be printed and reports can be previewed before printing
- Annual Report pages are consolidated to create a shorter and more succinct report.
- Goals section has been improved

If you have any input on features you would like to see, please forward them to us at wrisa@wrisa.net

WRISA fee structure for 2025-26 School Year

WRISA strives to keep accreditation affordable to all schools, large and small. WRISA will continue to have a fee per building, plus a student fee. We are publishing this information for schools to adequately budget.

2025-26

Per school/building fee \$200 and per student fee \$1

Mission:

The Wisconsin Religious and Independent Schools Accreditation annually accredits schools that meet rigorous standards of excellence and demonstrate continuous school improvement.

Board of Directors

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WRISA Board Changes

no changes for the 2024-25 school year

Schools Accredited for a Subsequent Cycle

All Saints Catholic School, Inc.	Kenosha
Divine Savior School	Fredonia
Holy Trinity School	Kewaskum
SIENA - St. Joseph	Racine
SIENA - St. Lucy	Racine
SIENA - St. Rita	Racine
SIENA – Our Lady of Grace Academy	Racine
SIENA – St. Catherine High School	Racine
SIENA – St. John Paul II Academy	Racine
St. Agnes School	Butler
SIENA – St. Sebastian	Sturtevant
St. John the Baptist Grade School	Plymouth
St. Katharine Drexel School	Beaver Dam
All Saints Catholic School, Inc.	Antigo
GRACE – St. John Paul II Classical School	Green Bay
St. Clare Catholic School	Wrightstown
Chilton Area Catholic School	Chilton
Divine Savior Catholic School	Kiel
St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic School	Kaukauna
McDonell Area Catholic Schools – Holy Ghost Elementary	Chippewa Falls
McDonell Central Catholic High School	Chippewa Falls
McDonell Area Catholic Schools – Notre Dame Middle School	Chippewa Falls
McDonell Area Catholic Schools – St. Charles Primary	Chippewa Falls
Sacred Heart School	Custer
Blessed Trinity Catholic School	Dane
Holy Rosary School	Darlington
St. John Vianney School	Janesville
St. Mary School	Portage
St Joseph School	Fort Atkinson
Cathedral School	Superior
Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School	Ashland
St. Anne Catholic School	Somerset
St. Joseph School	Rice Lake
St. Francis de Sales School	Spooner
Hope - Caritas	Milwaukee
Hope - Fidelis	Milwaukee
Hope - Fortis	Milwaukee
Hope - Prima	Milwaukee
HOPE - Semper	Milwaukee
Hope - Via	Racine
Rock County Christian School	Beloit
St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran School	Green Bay
Peace Lutheran School	Hartford
Peace Lutheran School	Sun Prairie
Wisconsin Lutheran High School	Milwaukee

Please remember

Schools can add users to their school account under the “user” tab. It is recommended that all schools have at least 2 or more users listed in the portal. Users can be added and removed at anytime.

WRISA requires all educators have a minimum of a BA and 12 EDU credits.

This is a higher standard than the WI Choice program. Educator credentials can be uploaded when a new employee is hired - - schools do not need to wait until the fall of the school year.

WRISA Office Address:

PLEASE make sure you to update the WRISA office address with your school offices/bookkeepers. We are still receiving checks with the incorrect address.

WRISA, PO Box 154, Sparta, WI 54656

Promoting
Excellence in
Our Schools

Board Accredits Schools

At the June and November meetings, the Board of Directors accredited 282 schools. To view the complete list of schools, visit the WRISA website:

wrisa.net

after January 1, 2025.

Strategic Planning

During the 2023-24 school year the following goals were achieved:

- Continued to update the new WRISA website with upgrades and improvements
- Continued the updating of WRISA documents to Google
- Support schools in pre-accreditation, self-studies, and school visits
- Provide training for all areas of accreditation
- Develop a Standard Operating Procedure Handbook for the Executive Director

During the Strategic Planning meetings, the Board developed the following goals for the 2024-25 school year.

- Continue to upgrade and maintain the WRISA website
- Update Board Manual
- Create a comprehensive policy for Adding Grades
- Continue to update the Executive Director manual
- Develop a policy for major gifts
- Review and align other accreditation associations with WRISA Standards
- Begin a plan of review for all WRISA Standards



What is NFSSAA?

National Federation of Nonpublic School State
Accrediting Association

(Arkansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin)

Background

1. WRISA is a member of the NFSSAA (since 1992)
2. The National Federation connects accrediting organizations in multiple states, fostering learning and collaboration so that we can bring the best service our members
3. The National Federation serves as a resource and guide for member organizations
4. Each state's affiliation with NFSSAA provides a means for national recognition through Homeland Security, ICE, and the National Honor Society for K-12 accreditation.

Mission

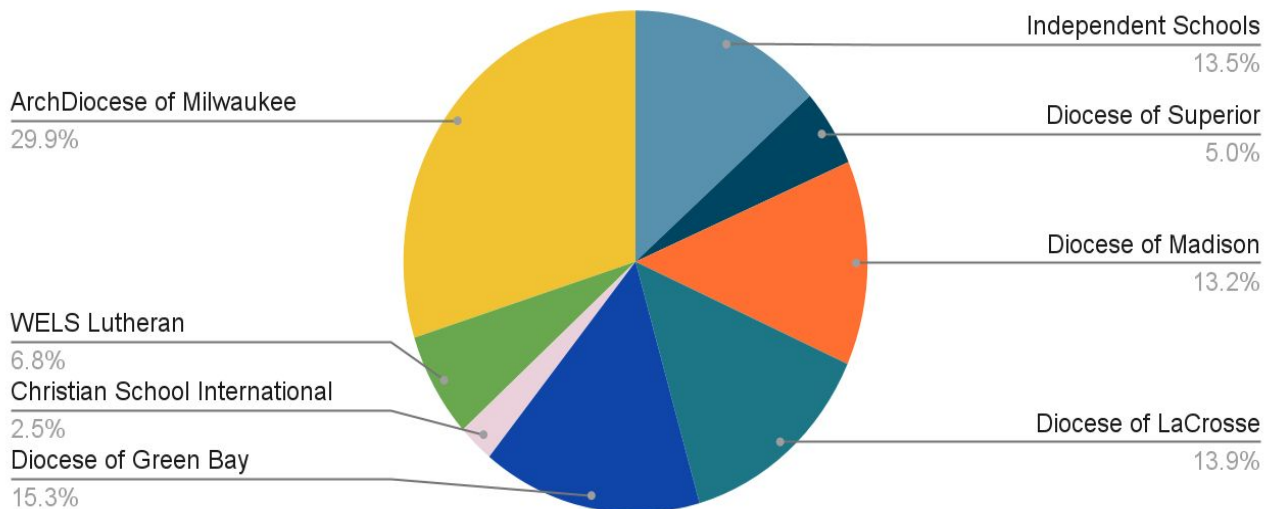
The National Federation of Nonpublic School State Accrediting Associations (NFSSAA) is an alliance of state accrediting associations committed to maintaining and advancing high standards of quality for the diverse schools in our coalition.

Statement of Purpose and Commitment

- The purpose of NFSSAA is to ensure that state nonpublic school accrediting associations are focused on advancing the quality of education within their individual states through assessment, accountability, educational standards, and continuous school improvement.
- In a society that is constantly changing in relation to information, technology, and global communication, there is a need for continuous assessment and evaluation. Schools that choose to engage in an accrediting process that involves ongoing school improvement, assist students in preparing for the future.
- State chapters of the National Federation serve schools with diverse student populations. NFSSAA acknowledges the unique mission and purpose of nonpublic schools and the need for standards that highlight these characteristics. Accreditation standards are reviewed in relation to the accountability of the school's mission and academic programs.
- NFSSAA's commitment to quality education is twofold: first, to assure students in nonpublic schools are provided with educational experiences that will prepare them for the challenges of adult life; and, second, to reassure all stakeholders that quality education exists in our nonpublic schools.

End of Year Report

WRISA SCHOOLS



Did you know?

- WRISA accredits 282 non-public schools serving more than 59,000 students throughout the State of Wisconsin in Elementary through High School
- Enrollment
 - 1-100 students - 68 schools
 - 101-200 students - 102 schools
 - 201- 300 students - 58 schools
 - 301- 500 students - 44 schools
 - over 500 students - 10 schools
 - (System Schools - 10 Large system schools)
- WRISA has 10 active Candidate Schools
- WRISA is a member driven organization focused on serving member schools
- WRISA relies on members for 95% of its budget
- WRISA has been accrediting religious and independent schools since 1992
- WRISA accredits over 200 schools that participate in one or more of the four Wisconsin Parental Choice programs

WRISA is a member of the National Federation of Non-public School State Accrediting Associations (NFSSAA). WRISA is recognized by: the U. S. Department of Homeland Security's Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) and Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) as such, WRISA accredited schools are considered to be recognized by the U. S. Department of Education; the State of Wisconsin for pre-accrediting and accrediting schools for the Parental Choice Programs; the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority (WHEFA); the National Honor Society (NHS) and the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). WRISA has formed a Co-operative Agreement with Middle States Association: Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA_CESS).

For all inquiries, please contact the WRISA Executive Director, Jean Suttie

Email: wrisa@wrisa.net Phone: 608-567-1208

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