

YEAR IN REVIEW

2014



GLEN H. HARVEY

FROM OUR CEO > Throughout its busy and successful 2014, WestEd remained committed to our mission of improving education and fostering healthy development from infancy through adulthood. To meet the diverse needs of the clients and communities we serve, we continued to expand and deepen our full-service work — launching high-profile new projects, publishing rigorous research studies, and providing valuable technical assistance and professional learning.

As testament to the high quality of our research-based services, WestEd received several major new contracts in the last year. Building on our decades of work supporting effective special education services, we were pleased to be chosen by the U.S. Department of Education to lead a new National Center for Systemic Improvement. The Center will extend WestEd's commitment to equity by helping states across the country improve services and outcomes for children with disabilities. In addition, WestEd continued our exceptional track record in the national Investing in Innovation (i3) program; two agency projects were among the very few i3 grants awarded in the 2014 funding cycle. And we continued to expand our justice and violence-prevention work, receiving three multiyear, multimillion-dollar grants from the U.S. Department of Justice to evaluate school-safety initiatives, and coauthoring multiple reports on state and local approaches to preventing serious violence among urban youth.

In addition to these important new projects, WestEd continued to grow many of our existing, high-impact services. Our Reading Apprenticeship project, which several

large-scale randomized controlled studies have shown to significantly improve students' standardized test scores, offered professional learning to support academic literacy to over 2,500 secondary and college educators across the country. And our Making Sense of SCIENCE project — which has also been shown to help raise academic performance, particularly for struggling students — reached over 2,000 teachers across nearly a dozen states, and published several new high-quality resources, including a suite of formative assessment task banks designed to bolster existing curriculum.

This is just a small sampling of the many ways over the last year that WestEd has made a difference supporting schools and communities nationwide, all the while remaining fiscally strong. At the heart of our work are strong partnerships with clients, collaborators, and funders at all levels — from state-agency leaders to classroom teachers to local administrators. As WestEd progresses through 2015 and beyond, we look forward to continuing to foster such connections in order to make a positive and sustainable difference in the lives of children and adults.

2014 SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

College & Career

With the Tennessee Department of Education, created and implemented a statewide work-based learning program. Integrated adult education and community college basic skills programs in collaboration with numerous regional consortia of community colleges.

Health, Safety, & Well-Being

Awarded three grants from the U.S. Department of Justice to evaluate school-safety programs. Joined a new national technical assistance center that assists federal grantees in promoting student mental health.

Early Childhood Development & Learning

Launched PD2GO, an online professional development system that offers engaging learning experiences on major concepts in early education. Helped implement the Illinois Kindergarten Individual Development Survey in all Illinois public schools offering kindergarten.

Literacy

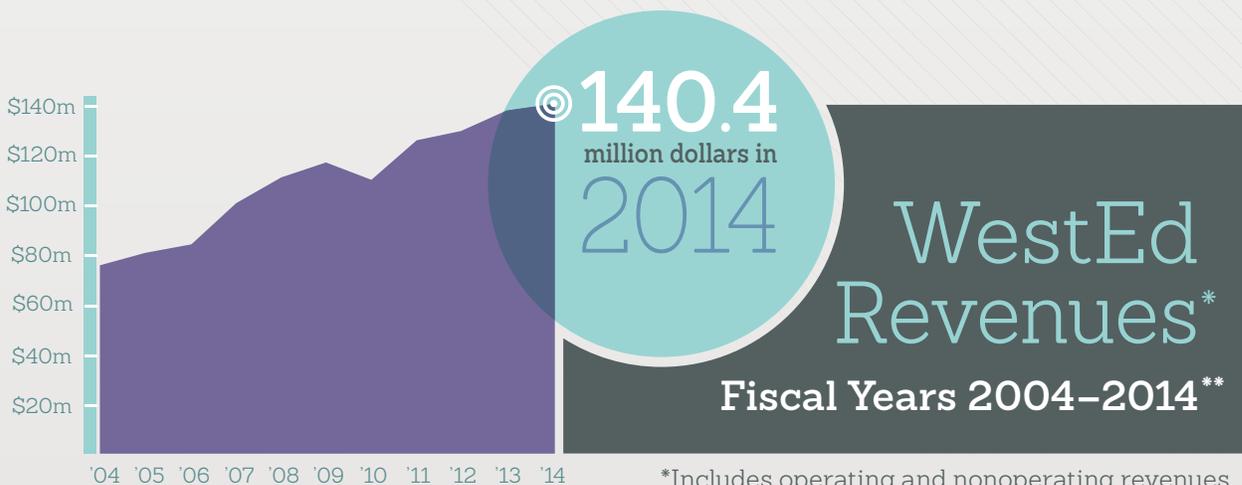
Offered professional learning to support academic literacy in the content areas to over 2,500 secondary and college educators across the country. Evaluated the impact of a New England-based literacy program on children's interest in reading and writing.

English Language Learners

Helped develop the English Language Arts/English Language Development Curriculum Framework, adopted by the California Board of Education. Began a longitudinal study of the outcomes of immigrant English language learners in Fort Worth, Texas.

Schools, Districts, & State Education Systems

Provided school and district turnaround support to numerous low-performing schools and districts across the country. Supported state-level implementation of a major new education finance law in California.

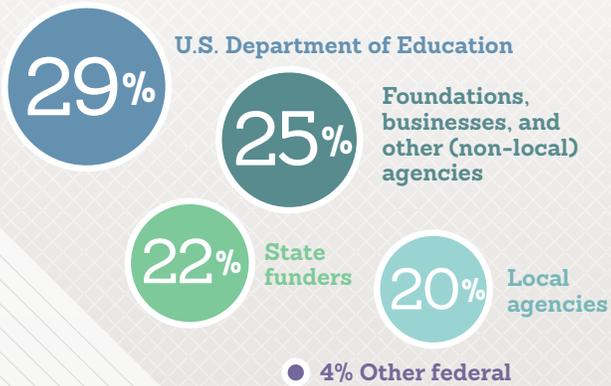


*Includes operating and nonoperating revenues

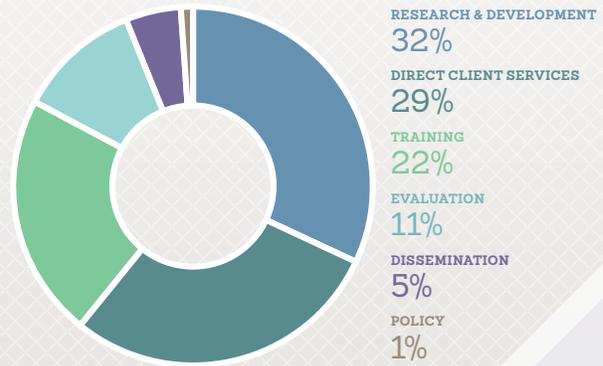
**Audited totals, except Fiscal Year 2014

Contracts & Grants

Revenue by Source



WestEd Core Work



Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM)

Won an Investing in Innovation (i3) grant to build teacher capacity in high-needs communities to increase students' science achievement. Began an evaluation of Khan Academy's effectiveness for helping community college students learn algebra.

Standards, Assessment, & Accountability

Developed "State of the States," a first-of-its-kind online tool providing data about each state's progress in implementing rigorous standards and associated assessments. Worked with several states to develop early childhood assessment systems.

Special Education

Launched two national centers: the Center for Systemic Improvement, which helps states improve outcomes for infants and youth with disabilities, and the Center for IDEA Fiscal Reporting, which helps states manage their federal special education fiscal data.

Teachers & Leaders

Began a five-year evaluation of a national principals academy, examining its impact on student achievement, attendance, and graduation rates. Helped states design and implement educator evaluation systems.

R&D ALERT ONLINE

To reach a broader audience and to use less paper, we launched R&D Alert Online, a web version of WestEd's award-winning newsletter. The new section of WestEd.org offers a new article each month — complemented by a range of related tools, resources, and guidance — along with an extensive archive of past articles on pressing issues affecting schools and communities nationwide.



2014 SELECTED RESOURCES

Over **90** new products and publications were added to WestEd's portfolio in 2014 (WestEd.org/bookstore). Below is a sample.



Raising the Bar

Multimedia website with research-based resources to help educators transition to 21st century learning standards



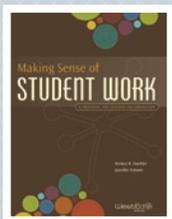
Speak Out, Listen Up! Tools for Using Student Perspectives and Local Data for School Improvement

Toolkit to provide educators a purposeful way to elicit student perspectives to inform school improvement efforts



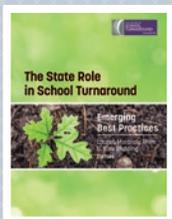
Changes in the Expertise of ESL Professionals: Knowledge and Action in an Era of New Standards

Paper exploring the possibilities presented by the Common Core and Next Generation standards for English-as-a-second-language professionals



Making Sense of Student Work: A Protocol for Teacher Collaboration

Self-facilitated guide for groups of K–8 teachers to use in learning from their students' work (Available in print and eBook)



The State Role in School Turnaround: Emerging Best Practices

Publication with information and guidance on the role of state education agencies in school turnaround efforts

WestEd is a public, not-for-profit education and research agency created under a Joint Powers Agreement, pursuant to California government code section 6507. WestEd is tax exempt under Section 115(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code. With this status, WestEd's work meets the giving guidelines for philanthropic organizations.

By the Numbers



REVENUE

\$140.4m

(This figure is unaudited and includes operating revenue and nonoperating revenue.)



CLIENTS & FUNDERS

602



NEW CONTRACTS & GRANTS

613



OFFICES

15 nationwide



STAFF

650+

Board of Director Chairs

2013–14: Bernice Stafford

2014–15: Beverly Young

2015–16: Harold Levine

View our full board of directors at WestEd.org/board.

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