According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1850-0645. The time required to complete this information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving the form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651.
If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-5650. OMB No. 1850-0645, approval expires 03/31/2008.
Your school has been selected to participate in the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), an educational research project sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). PIRLS is investigating student achievement in reading literacy in about 40 countries around the world. It is designed to measure and interpret differences in national education systems in order to help improve the teaching and learning of reading worldwide.

This questionnaire is addressed to school principals who are asked to supply information about their schools. Since your school has been selected as part of a nationwide sample, your responses are very important in helping to describe the education in the United States.

It is important that you answer each question carefully so that the information provided reflects the situation in your school as accurately as possible. Some of the questions will require that you look up school records, so you may wish to arrange for the assistance of another staff member to help provide this information. It is estimated that it will require approximately 30 minutes to complete this questionnaire.

Since PIRLS is an international study and all countries are using the same questionnaire, you may find that some of the questions seem unusual or are not entirely relevant to you or schools in the United States. Nevertheless, it is important that you do your best to answer all of the questions so comparisons can be made across countries in the study.

A Test Administrator from RTI International will pick up the completed questionnaire on the day that the students are scheduled to complete the PIRLS assessment at your school. If for any reason the Test Administrator fails to connect with you, a Business Reply Envelope will be supplied for you to return the questionnaire directly to RTI International.

Thank You.
1. What is the total enrollment of students in your school as of January 1, 2006?
   ___________ students
   Write in a number.

2. What is the total enrollment of fourth-grade students in your school as of January 1, 2006?
   ___________ students
   Write in a number.

3. How many people live in the city, town, or area in which your school is located?
   Check one circle only.
   Fewer than 3,000 people
   3,001 to 15,000 people
   15,001 to 50,000 people
   50,001 to 100,000 people
   100,001 to 500,000 people
   More than 500,000 people

4. How would you characterize the area in which your school is located?
   Check one circle only.
   Urban
   Suburban
   Rural

5. For the fourth-grade students in your school, about how many students receive free or reduced-price lunch?
   Check one circle only.
   All
   Some
   None

6. Approximately what percentage of students in your school...
   Check one circle for each line.
   0-10%
   11-25%
   26-50%
   More than 50%
   a) come from economically disadvantaged homes?
   b) come from economically affluent homes?
   c) do not speak English as their first language?
   d) receive some instruction at school in their home language (other than English)
7
For the fourth-grade students in your school:

a. How many days per year is your school open for instruction?

_______ days
Write in the number.

b. What is the total instructional time, excluding breaks, in a typical day?

_______ hours and _______ minutes
Write in the number of hours and minutes.

c. In one calendar week, how many days is the school open for instruction?

Check one circle only.

6 days ----○
5 1/2 days ----○
5 days ----○
4 1/2 days ----○
4 days ----○
Other ----○
Please specify______________

8
Does your school offer the following for the fourth-grade students in your school?

Check one circle only.

Yes
No

a) Extended instructional time (beyond the prescribed minimum) --

If Yes,

How many students participate?

Check one circle only.

0-25% ----○
26-50% ----○
51-75% ----○
76-100% ----○

If Yes,

How many students participate?

Check one circle only.

0-25% ----○
26-50% ----○
51-75% ----○
76-100% ----○

b) Before or after-school child care --

If Yes,

How many students participate?

Check one circle only.

0-25% ----○
26-50% ----○
51-75% ----○
76-100% ----○
School Questionnaire

9

About how many of the students in your school can do the following when they begin first grade?

Check one circle for each line.

Less than 25%
25-50%
51-75%
More than 75%

a) Recognize most of the letters of the alphabet
b) Read some words
c) Read sentences
d) Write letters of the alphabet
e) Write some words

10

Compared with other areas of the curriculum (e.g., mathematics and science), how much emphasis does your school place on teaching the following language and literacy skills to students in grades 1 to 4?

Check one circle for each line.

More emphasis
Same emphasis
Less emphasis

a) Reading
b) Writing (not handwriting)
c) Speaking/listening (oral language)

11

Does your school have the following?

Check one circle for each line.

a) Its own written statement of the reading curriculum to be taught in the school (in addition to the national or regional curriculum guides)
b) Informal initiatives to encourage students to read (for example, book clubs, independent reading contests, school-wide recreational reading periods)
c) School-based programs for teachers geared towards the improvement of reading instruction
d) Its own guidelines on how to coordinate reading instruction across teachers
### 12
How does your school use the following materials in your reading instructional program for students in fourth grade and below?

*Check one circle for each line.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basis for instruction</th>
<th>Supplement</th>
<th>Not used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- a) Reading series (basal readers, graded readers)
- b) Textbooks
- c) A variety of children’s books
- d) Materials from different curricular areas
- e) Children’s newspapers and/or magazines
- f) Computer programs that teach students to read

### 13
At which grade do the following reading skills and strategies first receive a major emphasis in instruction in your school?

*Check one circle for each line.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First grade+earlier</th>
<th>Second grade</th>
<th>Third grade</th>
<th>Fourth grade</th>
<th>Not in these grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Knowing letters of the alphabet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Knowing letter-sound relationships</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Reading words</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Reading isolated sentences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Reading connected text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Identifying the main idea of text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Explaining or supporting understanding of text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Comparing text with personal experience</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Comparing different texts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Making predictions about what will happen next in text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k) Making generalizations and inferences based on text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l) Describing style and structure of text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14
For students in fourth-grade and below, does your school make provisions for reading instruction in mother tongue for students whose mother tongue is not English?

Check one circle only.
Yes ----
No ----

15
Does your school have a school library?

Check one circle only.
Yes ----
No ---- (If No, go to #16)

If Yes,

a. **Approximately** how many books with different titles does your school library have (exclude magazines and periodicals)?

Check one circle only.
250 or fewer ----
251-500 ----
501-2,000 ----
2,001-5,000 ----
5,001-10,000 ----
more than 10,000 ----

b. **Approximately** how many titles of magazines and other periodicals does your school library have?

Check one circle only.
0 ----
1-5 ----
6-10 ----
11-30 ----
31 or more ----
16. What is the total number of computers that can be used for instructional purposes by fourth-grade students?

__________ computers
Write in the number.

17. Does your school provide teachers with the following facilities?

Check one circle for each line.

A) A workspace in the classroom

B) A workspace shared by several teachers

C) A separate workspace for each teacher (e.g., office)

18. How much is your school’s capacity to provide instruction affected by a shortage or inadequacy of the following?

Check one circle for each line.

Check one circle for each line.

A) Qualified teaching staff

B) Teachers with a specialization in reading

C) Second language teachers

D) Instructional materials (e.g., textbooks)

E) Supplies (e.g., papers, pencils)

F) School buildings and grounds

G) Heating/cooling and lighting systems

H) Instructional space (e.g., classrooms)

I) Special equipment for physically disabled students

J) Computers for instructional purposes

K) Computer software for instructional purposes

L) Computer support staff

M) Library books

N) Audio-visual resources
19

Are any of the following programs and services available at your school site for the children and families in your school?

Check one circle for each line.

- Yes
- No

a) Adult literacy program for English speakers

b) Adult literacy program for non-English speakers

c) Parent education programs (e.g., classes on child development, education on being a parent)

d) Health or social services

---

20

How often is each of the following provided by your school for fourth-grade students and/or their families?

Check one circle for each line.

- Never
- Once a year
- 2-3 times a year
- 4-6 times a year
- 7 or more times a year

a) Teacher-parent conferences (individual or group)

b) Letters, calendars, newsletters, etc., sent home to provide parents with information about the school

c) Written reports (report cards or portfolios) of child's performance sent home

d) Events at school to which parents are invited

---

21

Approximately what percentage of students in your school have parents or guardians who do each of the following?

Check one circle for each line.

- Not applicable
- 0-10%
- 11-25%
- 26-50%
- More than 50%

a) Volunteer regularly to help in the classroom or another part of the school

b) Attend teacher-parent conferences

c) Attend cultural, sporting, or social events at the school

How would you characterize each of the following within your school?

Check one circle for each line.

a) Teachers’ job satisfaction
b) Teachers’ expectations for student achievement
c) Parental support for student achievement
d) Students’ regard for school property
e) Students’ desire to do well in school
f) Students’ regard for each other’s welfare

To what degree is each of the following a problem in your school?

Check one circle for each line.

a) Student tardiness
b) Student absenteeism (i.e., unjustified absences)
c) Classroom disturbance
d) Cheating
e) Profanity
f) Vandalism
g) Theft
h) Intimidation or verbal abuse among students
i) Physical conflicts among students
j) Drug abuse
k) Weapons
l) Racism
24. Does your school have an official policy statement related to promoting cooperation and collaboration among teachers?

Check one circle only.

Yes ----○

No ----○

25. About how often do the teachers in your school have formally scheduled time to meet to share or develop instructional materials and approaches?

Check one circle only.

At least 2-3 times a week ----○

Once a week ----○

Once a month ----○

Less than once a month ----○

Never ----○

26. a. As principal of this school, approximately what percentage of your time is devoted to the following activities?

Write a percentage for each.

a) Developing curriculum and pedagogy for your school ------------------------ ___% 

b) Managing staff/staff development ------------------------ ___% 

c) Administrative duties (e.g., hiring, budgeting) ------------------------ ___% 

d) Parent and community relations ------------------------ ___% 

e) Teaching ------------------------ ___% 

f) Interacting with individual students ------------------------ ___% 

g) Other ------------------------ ___% 

Total = 100 %

b. On average, how many hours per week do you spend on these activities?

___________ hours

Write in a number.

27. About how long did it take you to complete this questionnaire?

___________ minutes

Write in a number.
Thank you for the thought, time, and effort you have put into completing this questionnaire.