Districts across West Virginia face the challenge of recruiting and retaining new staff, particularly in remote areas of the state. To meet this challenge, district leaders need research-based solutions that can help minimize turnover and attract high-quality teachers and administrators.

Developing the leadership skills of current educators, particularly in rural schools, is also crucial. West Virginia superintendents aim to promote the skills required of school leaders to manage the challenges and opportunities associated with working in rural settings.

The West Virginia School Leadership Research Alliance (WVSLRA) aims to build the capacity of districts and schools to use data and research-based strategies to address teacher and leader recruitment and retention, as well as leadership development.

**GOALS OF THE ALLIANCE**

The goals of the alliance are to help members:

- Understand district-level turnover rates of teachers and school leaders.
- Share research-based best practices pertaining to teacher and leader recruitment and retention.
- Identify and disseminate leadership-development tools and strategies to enhance the skills of current school and district leaders.

**RESEARCH AND ANALYTIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

REL Appalachia will work with the alliance to:

- Describe turnover rates for teachers and administrators across the state.
- Identify best practices used in locales that are characterized by low turnover and successful recruitment.

**ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP**

Alliance members can participate in either of the projects above, help REL Appalachia focus on the needs of your school or district, or both. You choose the level of commitment right for you. The alliance is open to school- and district-level staff throughout West Virginia. Principals and central office staff are especially encouraged to participate.

Questions? Interested in becoming an alliance member? Contact Lydotta Taylor at lmtaylor@edvgroup.org or 304-296-9021 x11.