

# LILEAD

STUDY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT  
LIBRARY SUPERVISORS

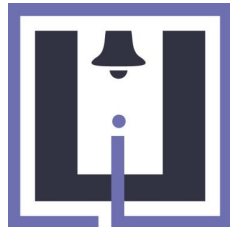
## Asking The Beautiful Questions About School Library Supervisors: An Initial Inquiry

Ann Carlson Weeks &  
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University of Maryland/College Park

2013 ALISE Annual Conference

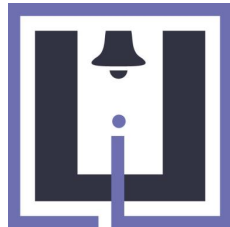
# The Lilead Project

- A three-year research project funded by the Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS)
- Two Parts
  - The Lilead Survey
  - The Lilead Network



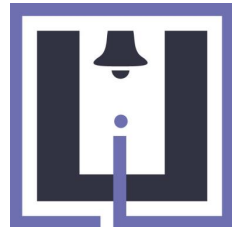
# Why Study School District Library Supervisors?

- Little information available – primarily anecdotal
- Often the only advocate for library programs and services at the district level
- Defined in national standards and described in position statements



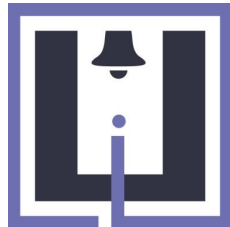
# The Lilead Survey

- National workforce study to collect baseline information
- 280 school districts with student populations of 25,000 or more
- At least one district in every state, bringing the total survey population to 290 districts



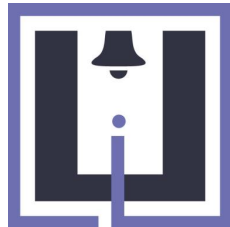
# Research Areas

- Position profiles
- Knowledge and skills
- Greatest challenges and needs
- Demographic data



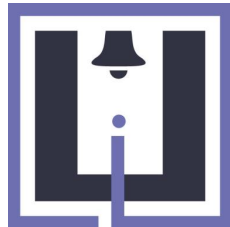
# Pilot Survey

- April 2012
- 21 Participants
- Surprises



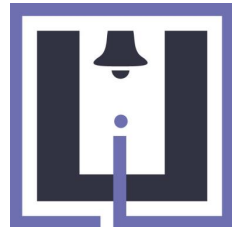
# Most Challenging Aspect

- Who ARE the supervisors?
- How do we find them?



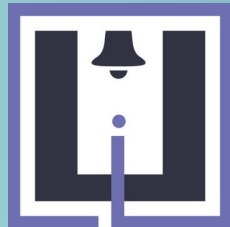
# Survey Deployment

- Launched on October 10, 2012
- With a survey population of 290 districts, 274 supervisors received surveys
- Closed on November 21, 2012
- 61 percent response rate
  - 166 completed surveys
  - Participants in 38 states



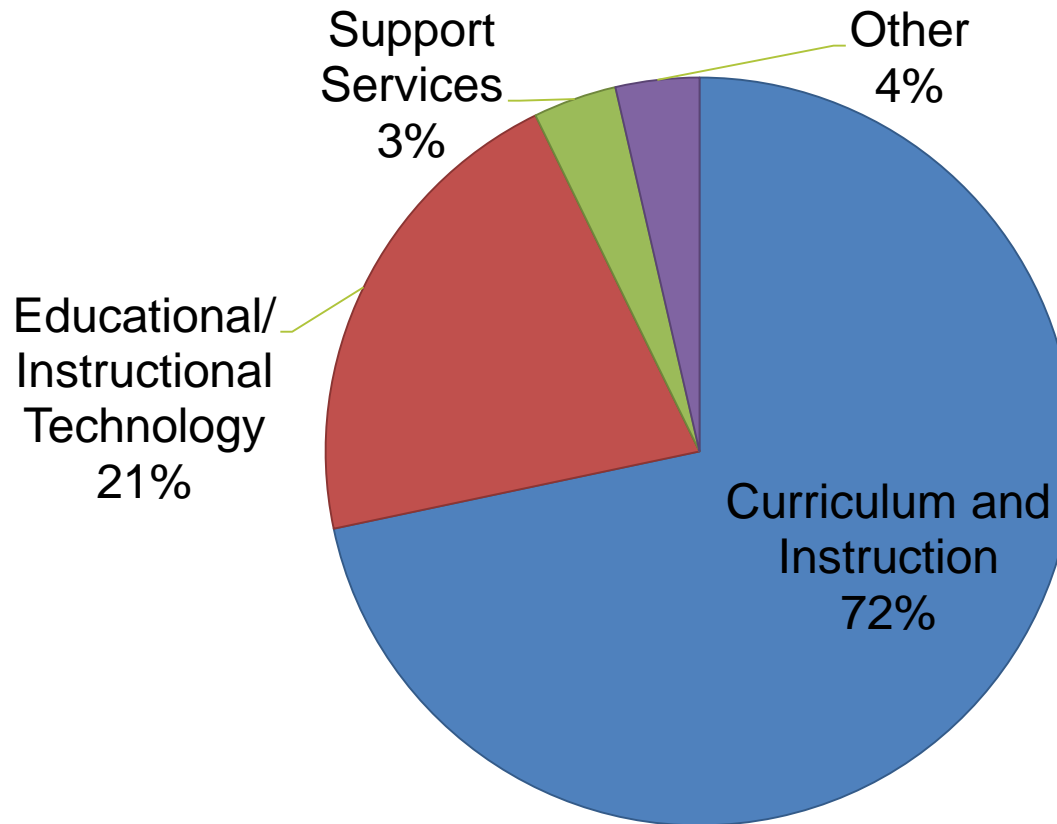


# Position Profile of the Supervisor

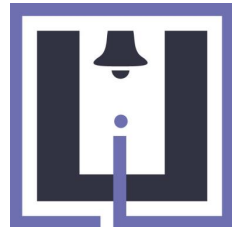
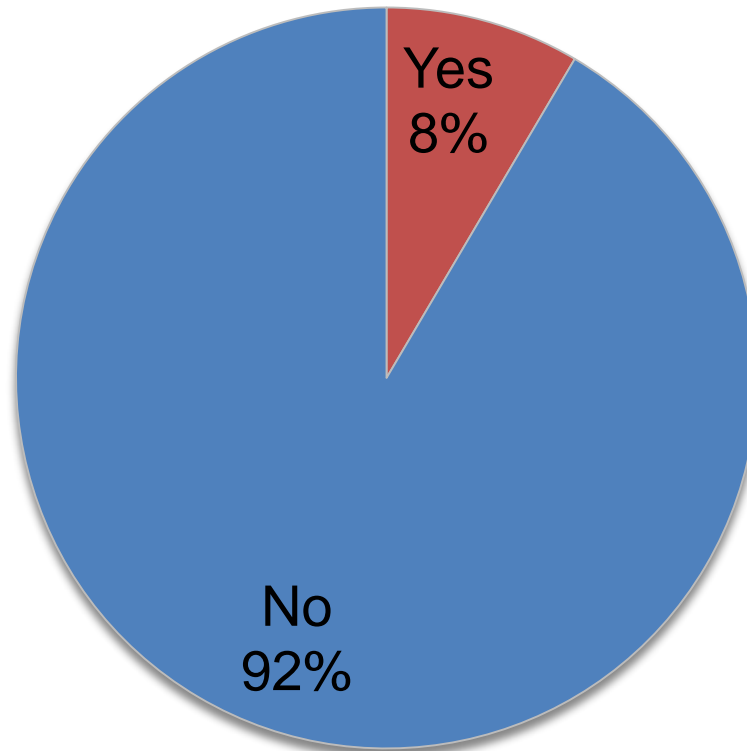




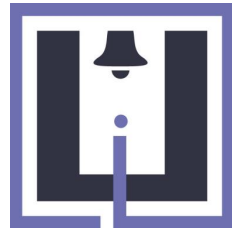
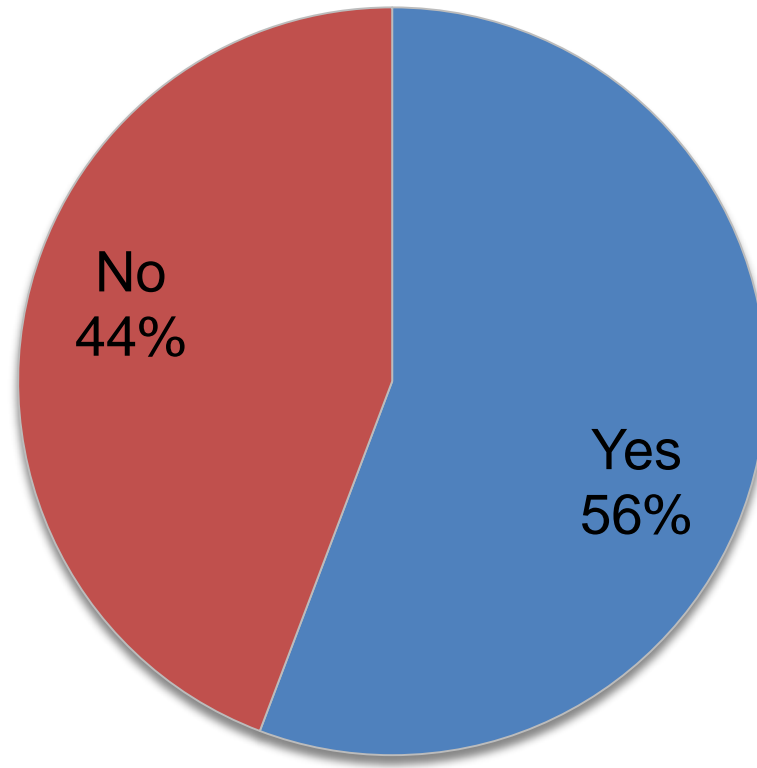
# Supervisors' Divisions & Departments



# Responsibilities at the Building Level

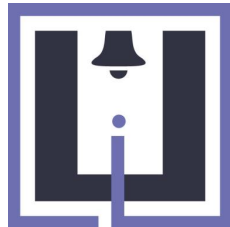


# Do you spend 100% of your time on library services?

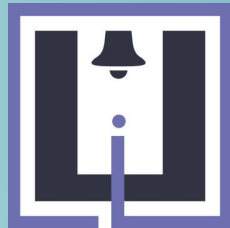


# Percentage of Time Spent on Library Services

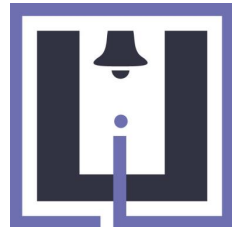
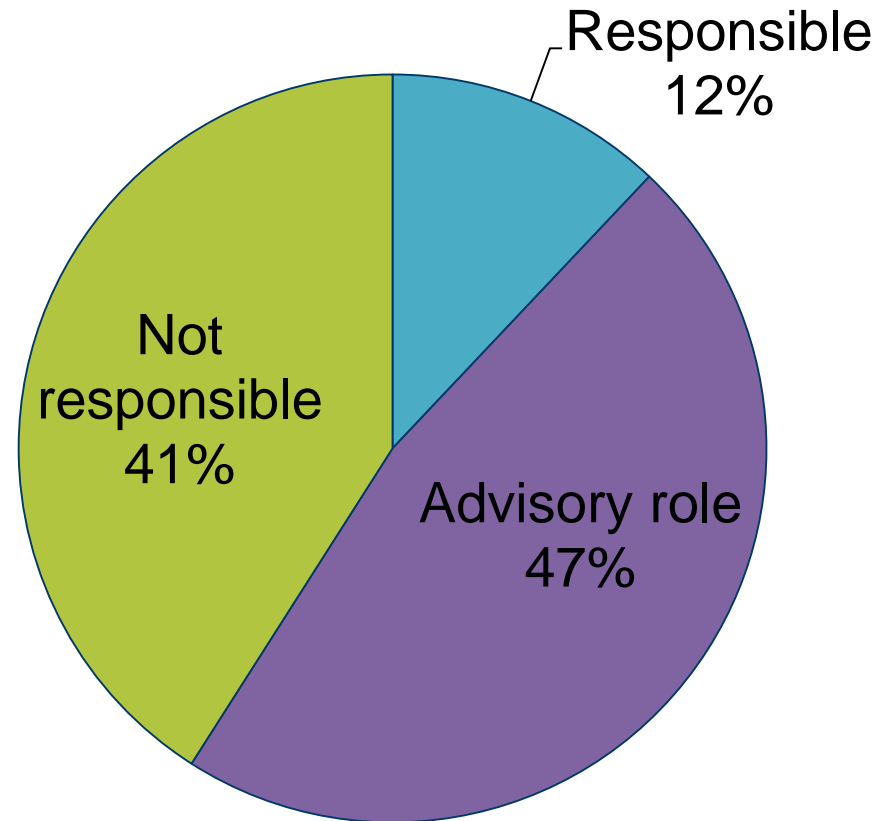
- The average supervisor tasked with more than one district-level responsibility spends just **41%** of time on library services.
- What else are these supervisors doing?



# Responsibilities of the Supervisor

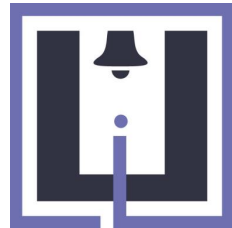
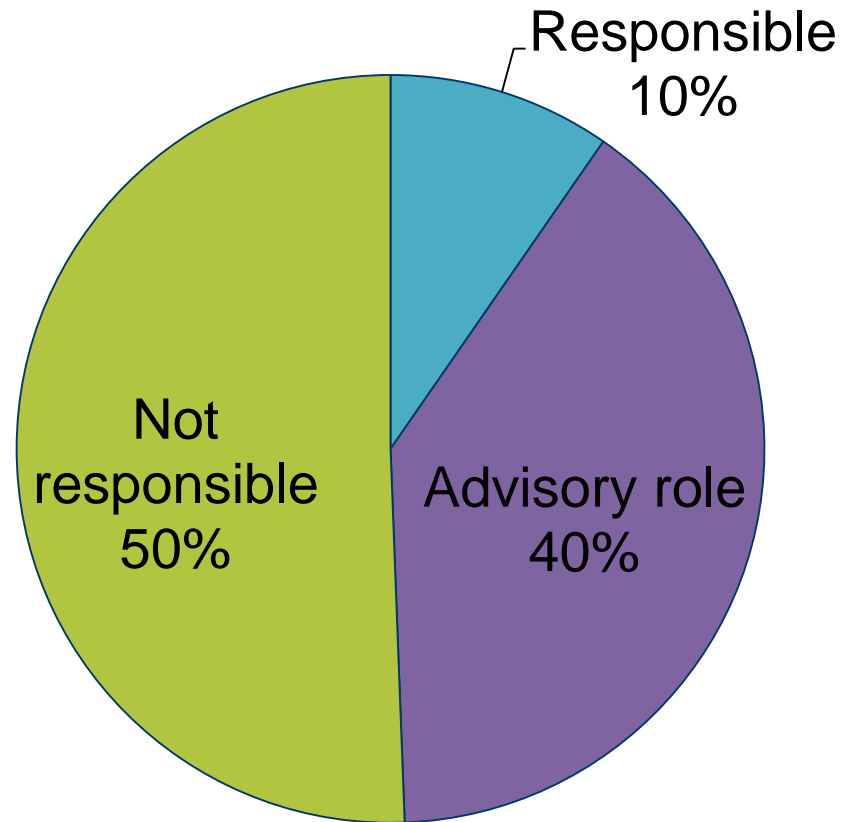


# Hiring School Librarians

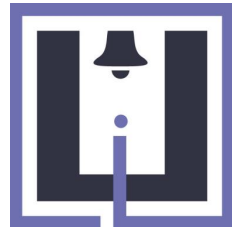
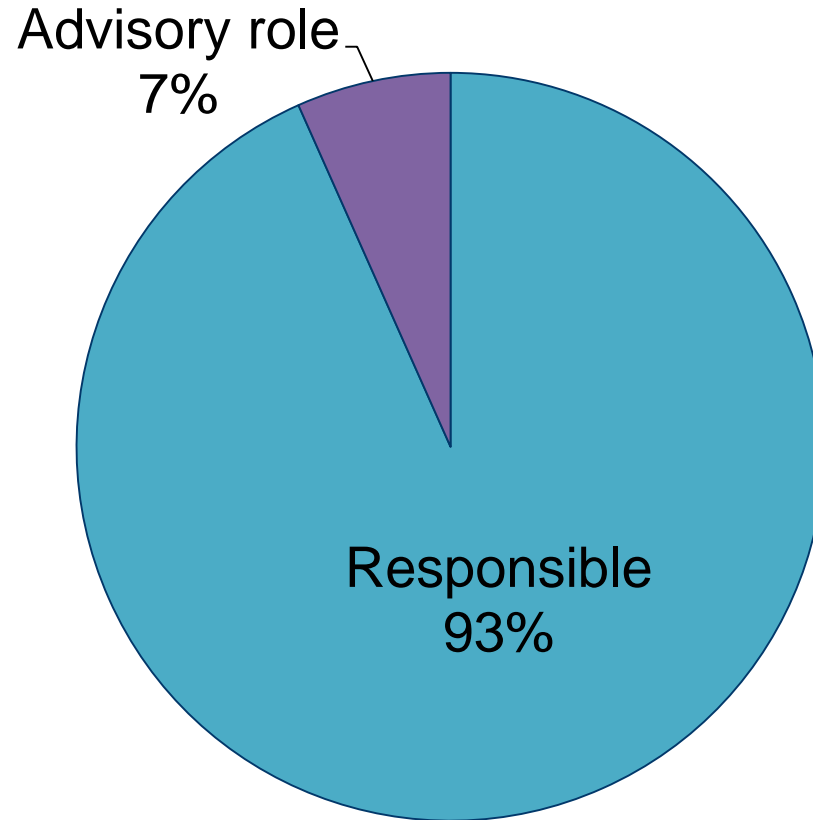




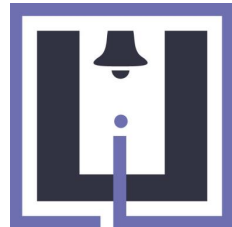
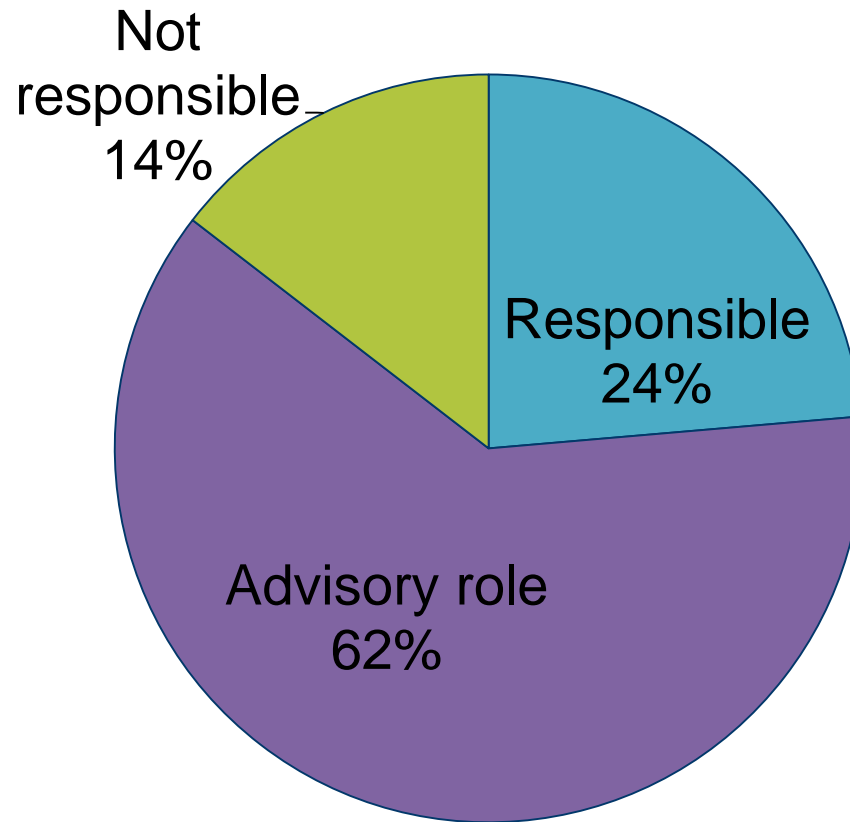
# Evaluating School Librarians



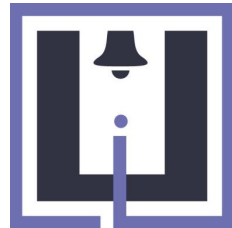
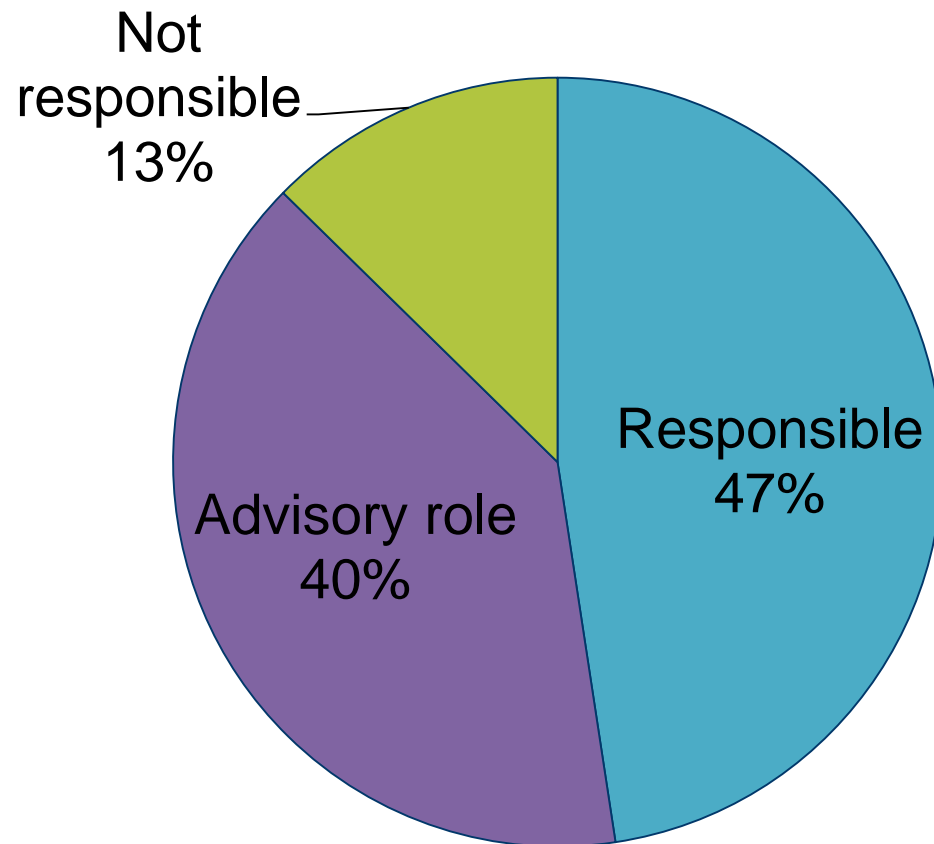
# Conducting Professional Development



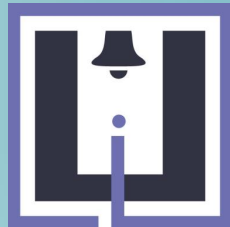
# Collection Development



# Technology Support for School Librarians

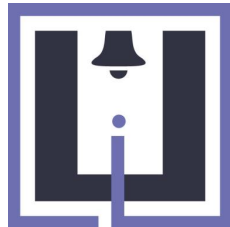


# Demographics of the Supervisor

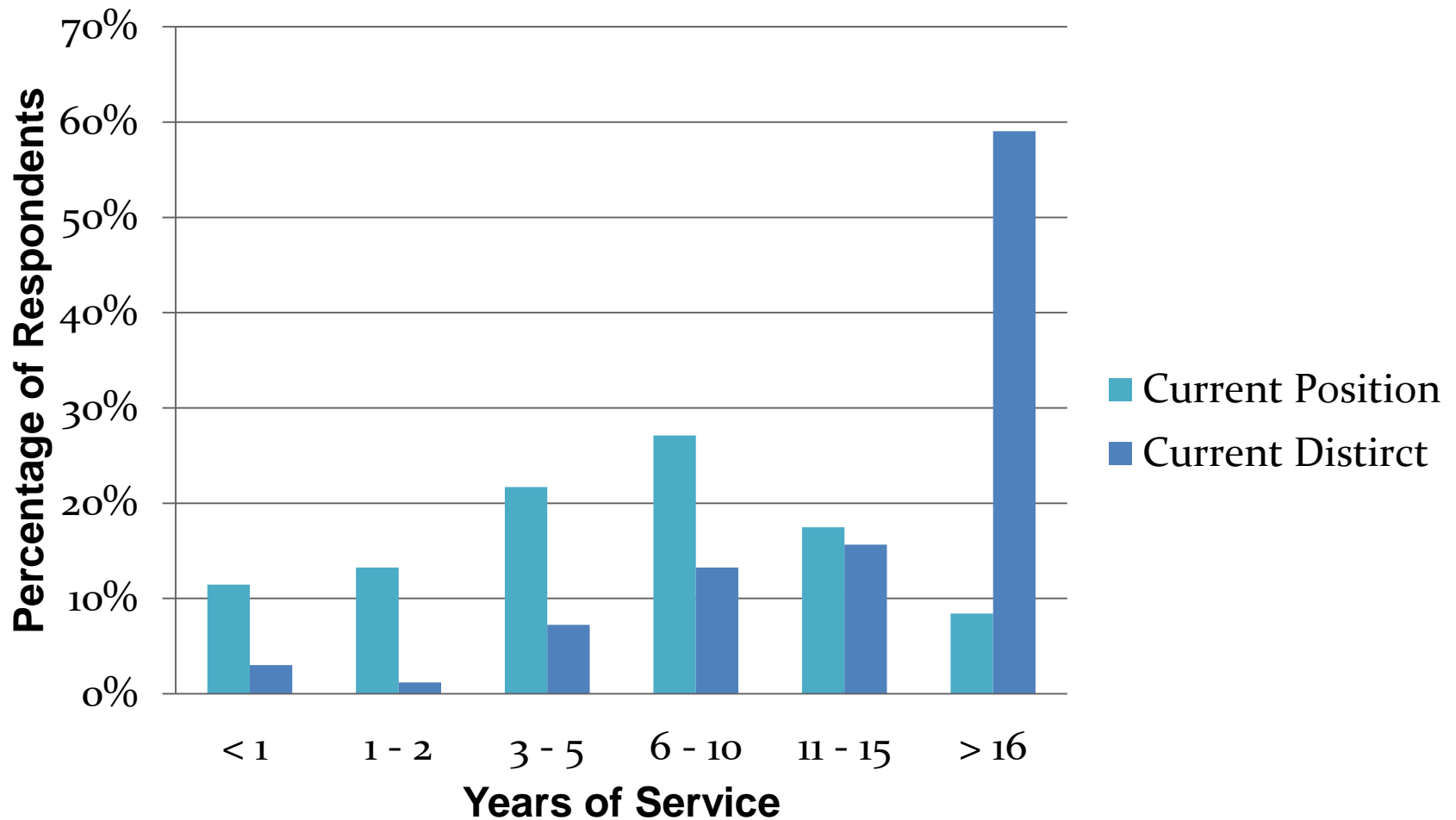


# Demographic Highlights

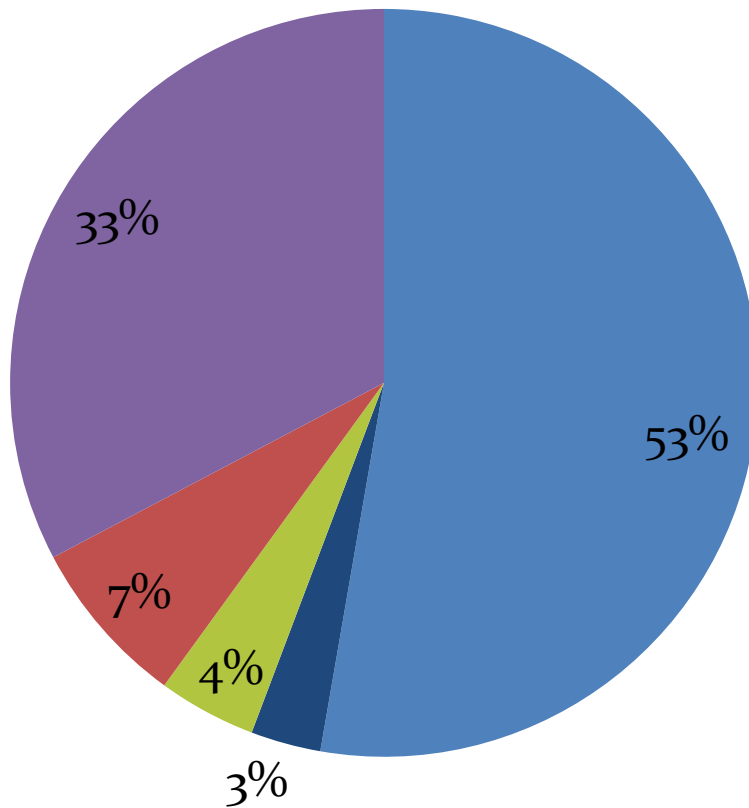
- 80 % Female
- 87 % White
- 49 % are between the ages of 55 and 64
- 61 % have an MLS
- 58 % were once school librarians
- 72 % were once classroom teachers
- 68 % are on an administrator's salary schedule



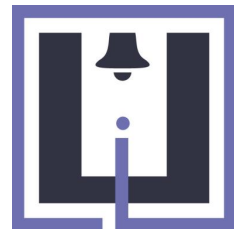
# Tenure in Current Position and Current District



# Position Immediately Preceding that of Supervisor



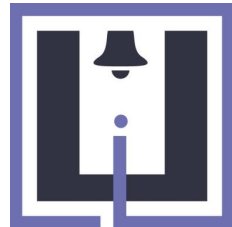
- School librarian
- Classroom teacher
- Building-level administrator
- Administrator, not library services
- Other, please specify





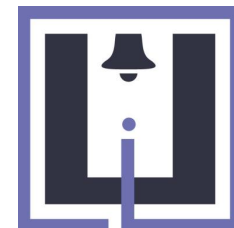
# Further Data Analysis

- Much, much more data
  - Time spent on specific tasks
  - Importance of various tasks
  - Trends in budgets, staffing, and other challenges
- Comparisons of roles and responsibilities based on
  - District size
  - Office staff size
  - Tenure and experience



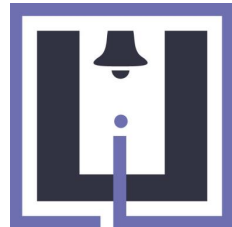
# Future Research

- Continue as a longitudinal study
  - Retention, turnover, position loss
- Further research into the titles, roles, responsibilities and expectations
- Expand to include more mid-size and small districts
- Conduct workshops with supervisors to further research and create professional development opportunities



# The Research Team

- Dr. Ann Carlson Weeks, Principal Investigator
- Mr. Jeffrey DiScala, Co-Principal Investigator
- Dr. Sheri A. Massey
- Ms. Alexandra Moses
- Ms. Rebecca Follman
- Dr. Diane Barlow



# Acknowledgements



# Questions?

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