



Why Use SIS Liberty?

You realize that there are many software products that would benefit your school – and your students – if only those products could access appropriate subsets of your SIS (Student Information System) data. But you also know that student data that is not under your direct control endangers privacy.

Discovery created SIS Liberty to help. Liberty runs on a server right in your district or school instead of being somewhere out of your control. You decide whether or not a particular external application can access student data, and if so then exactly what data. And you control what is done with that data.

You have complete control for a simple reason: *it's your school and your data.*

"We've spent over 20 person-years figuring out how to extract data from over 100 different school information systems. We had to do this so that school personnel could have their student data available at all times by using the Principalm software.

Well, it turns out that other software – automated dialing systems, Teacherpalm, and the Rubrix grading and walkthrough software to name a few – also need that data. So, we've packaged up all those man-years of development into SIS Liberty to make it easier for you to re-purpose your school's information in ways that help students."

Chris Howerton,
Founder, Discovery Software

- ▶ easily and inexpensively re-use SIS data across multiple applications
- ▶ avoid complex and costly solutions
- ▶ avoid the need for custom built integrations to other products

Custom

You decide which data is sent, where it goes, and who it is sent to. Define subsets of data to go to specific people or applications.

Secure

You put every external company that needs some of your schools' data through a rigorous vetting process. SIS Liberty acts as a gateway to limit direct access to your SIS database and to give you control over who gets what data, when, and in what format.

Add Value

Personal data is extremely valuable. Your job is to utilize the value in your student data to help students succeed! SIS Liberty helps you turn raw student data into valuable information through controlled data export to other trusted applications.

How SIS Liberty Works

Without SIS Liberty, your school data is trapped in your Student Information System.

Bridge plugins extract SIS (School Information System) data and put it into SIS Liberty's Generalized School Database. As each SIS is different, Discovery Software has spent more than 20 man-years creating and maintaining over 100 Bridges for different SIS's. (If the particular SIS used at your school is not supported yet, we'll build a new one for you.)

All Bridges are different, so they need different settings. A custom user interface is created in the **Sources tab** to manage settings relevant to the particular Bridge.

Liberty creates a folder for each school that has a Liberty license. Each school's PDE and PDU files are stored in their own folder, managed in Liberty's **Schools tab**.

Bridges read SIS databases and store their contents in a text-based intermediate format which we refer to as **PDE** and **PDU** files.

SIS Liberty then applies business rules to the PDE/PDU data and fills a **Generalized School Database**, consisting of a proprietary structure (**XDB**) plus **SQLite**.

Like Bridges, Providers affect the Liberty user interface. The **Datasets tab** lets you choose and name subsets of data from the Liberty database.

The **Recipients tab** is where you select which people receive each dataset, and to which application it is sent.

Providers are the plugins that send data from the Liberty database to other applications. Every application that gets its data from Liberty requires its own Provider plugin. You have complete control of your data: it is sent directly from your school and only to the destinations specified in the Providers that you install.

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Established in 1984, Discovery Software is a leading education software developer focused upon technologies that help K-12 teachers and administrators be more efficient and effective. Products developed by Discovery Software include Principalm™ for mobile student information and security, and Rubrix™ for evaluation.