



Communities
In Schools

Greater Tarrant County

Communities In Schools Research Findings

CIS has been the subject of extensive evaluation for several years. In 2005 Atlantic Philanthropies committed to a five-year grant to support a rigorous independent evaluation of the effectiveness of the Communities In Schools (CIS) model. In 2009 the Bush School of Government & Public Service at Texas A&M University released *The ABCD's of Texas Education: Assessing the Benefits and Costs of Reducing the Dropout Rate*. During the last session of the Texas Legislature the Texas Education Agency was directed to contract with an independent research firm to compare all dropout programs in America. ICF International released its 2009 report entitled *Best Practices In Dropout Prevention*.

The Results:

- CIS serves the “right” students; those most likely to drop out (CIS does not “cherry pick” its participants).
- CIS is scalable to as many schools as needed.
- CIS reduces teacher turnover.
- CIS students have higher GPA's (3.52 points higher on a 100-point scale), higher attendance rates (4.83 percentage points higher) and earn more credits (1.06 additional credits) than control group students.
- CIS is the “causal factor” for students' increased academic achievement and attendance improvement. This is the first “causal factor” credited to any dropout prevention program.
- Only 21 programs in America have results that are confirmed by evidence-based research.
- Of the 21 programs, CIS is the only program in the country that reduces dropout rates and increases graduation rates.
- CIS is the least expensive in terms of public investment.