



Communities
In Schools®

Tennessee

Newsletter | August 2022

Supporting Student Success

*Carlos is **ALL IN** for
going back to school.*



Communities
In Schools®



This past May, one of our case managed students, Carlos, at Apollo Middle School was wrapping up his 8th grade year when he started hanging with the wrong crowd and was expelled for having drugs at school. With his middle school experience abruptly coming to an end, Carlos fell behind.

In August, our CIS Site Coordinator, Allison, was attending an Apollo family engagement event where she ran into Carlos. They caught up on what he had been up to during the summer, and he shared that he wanted to get a fresh start this school year but because of a language barrier he was confused and unsure of where to report to school the following week. Allison helped him get enrolled in the correct school and connected him with other resources he needed to start the year off right. They also talked about what led him to getting expelled the previous school year, which he felt was his boredom after soccer ended. To address this, together they talked with the middle school soccer coach and Carlos is helping out with the team as an assistant coach, in addition to playing for the high school.

The relationship Carlos and Allison developed when he was in middle school proved that she was someone he trusted, and he knew he could turn to when he needed help. Allison shared that Carlos' year is off to a great start and he has perfect attendance. He is also able to keep in touch with Allison by popping by her office before he hits the field to coach the middle school team!

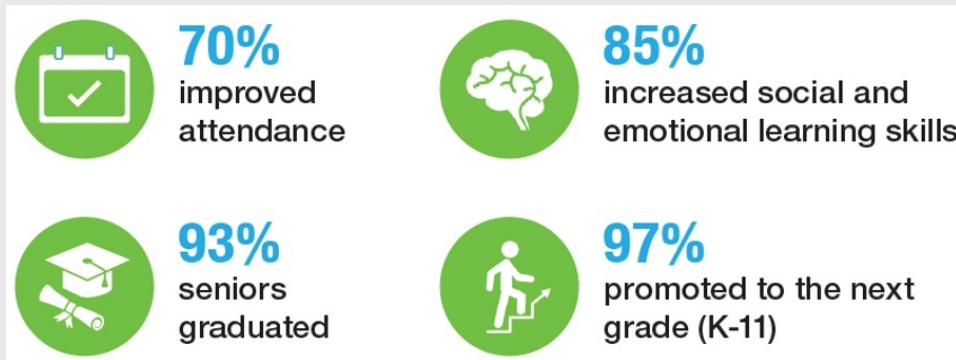
A Message from our CEO

Hi All,

How is it already September? I'm pretty sure just a few days ago we were closing out the school

year and heading into a ridiculously hot summer. Yet here we are, well into the new school year. And wow! What a difference from the last couple of school starts! Classes have started back pretty smoothly across the state. The CIS team is rested and excited for the year, fully expecting to see both learning gains, attendance, and mental wellbeing continue to rise for our students.

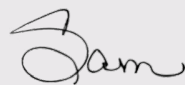
In addition to some R&R and back-to-school planning, we were crunching data to see how our students fared by the end of last year, which you can see below. We are proud of their hard work and resilience of our students, coordinators, teachers and school administration as they rally back from a challenging disruption. Our data is compiled into three impact reports; statewide, Nashville and rural. You can view all of those on our website by clicking [here](#).



Like the rest of the nation, we saw our fair share of social emotional challenge with our students last year, but by focusing of their wellbeing, our students made commendable strides. We also saw some basic needs go down. For our case managed students, we saw solid progress on school attendance, and we look forward to seeing the final schoolwide rates as soon as they are published. So we'll keep you posted on that.

Finally, as we promised, we are starting a new journey of student supports, particularly in our high schools. Beginning this year, our high school coordinators will be putting a strong focus on working with students to explore all the college and career possibilities and chart a course for postsecondary success. We look forward to learning a lot and working with our partners across the state to see students successfully transition from high school to their next stage successfully.

Onward and Upward,



Upcoming Events



Join us for our
All in for Kids
Fundraising Breakfast

featuring the CIS National President, Rey Saldaña,
as our Keynote Speaker



Thursday, October 27, 2022

Networking and Coffee begins at 7:30am
Program will be from 8-9am

14Tenn

1410 51st Ave. N, Nashville, TN 37209

Parking is available on site

RSVP to Michelle Fletcher at mfletcher@cistn.org
by Friday, October 22

A special thank you to all of our sponsors and
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All in for Kids Breakfast Fundraiser

Join us for a morning of celebration and giving at our All in for Kids Breakfast! Our keynote speaker will be Rey Saldaña, the President and CEO of Communities In Schools. Check-in begins at 7:30am. Program begins at 8am. Free parking will be available in the lot behind the building. If you would like to join us, please RSVP to Michelle at mfletcher@cistn.org.



move
inclusive dance



Grilling for a Good Cause

A Mighty Voice is a local BBQ competition that benefits four local nonprofit organizations; Thisbe and Noah Scott Foundation, MOVE Inclusive Dance, Strick's Gift, and Communities In Schools of Tennessee. Our missions all have one common focus: advocating for children who need a voice. Come out and enjoy some great BBQ for a great cause. For information about tickets or

Partner Spotlight



Our Amqui Elementary site coordinator, Allison Simpson, was surprised when she entered her room to start preparing to welcome students and families for the first day of school.

She was greeted with an amazing donation by community partner, Madison Church of Christ, which included hundreds of new uniform tops, pants and skirts. Ms. Simpson says, “the church has been a critical partner assisting with families’ basic needs, such as uniforms in previous years but, they really outdid themselves this time.” Ms. Simpson has partnered with Madison Church of Christ for several years and this year, every student who attended Amqui’s preview day was able to pick out several items of clothing to prepare for their first day back at school! On top of that, Amqui’s clothing closet is fully stocked and ready for the year.

The work of CIS is not possible without our community partners, and we are grateful that Ms. Carol Belles, pictured here, keeps in close touch throughout the year and ensures that Madison Church of Christ is responsive to the needs of Amqui’s families.

If you want to partner with a local school in Tennessee to provide resources or become a volunteer, check out our [website](#) for more information!

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