



CENTER FOR SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS

Every school...safe, supportive, engaging, and inspiring.

Founded in 1979, the Center for Supportive Schools (CSS, formerly Princeton Center for Leadership Training) is driven by the vision that one day, all students will thrive in schools that graduate them prepared for the rigors of college and lives filled with meaningful work, active citizenship, and personal fulfillment. Our work directly addresses *disengagement from school*, a root cause of students dropping out of school and other high-risk behaviors for students in urban, suburban, rural, economically disadvantaged, or more affluent communities.

OUR STRATEGY AND SOLUTIONS

Since 1979, CSS has partnered with 350 schools and our work has touched 350,000 students, educators, and parents. CSS partners with schools to help overcome disengagement by *engaging all members of the school community in the relationships and meaningful dialogue necessary to effect substantial and sustainable change in all students' school experiences*. We accomplish this through the following solutions:

- **Peer Group Connection (PGC):** an evidence-based, school-based program that supports and eases students' successful transitions into middle and high school by tapping into the power of older students to create a nurturing environment for incoming students.
- **Teen Prevention Education Program (Teen PEP):** an evidence-based, school-based program that utilizes peer-to-peer education to increase responsible decision-making among students around issues of sexual health.
- **Student & Family Advisory (SFA):** a research-based school-wide practice that provides all students in middle and high school with the support they need to feel attached to school, to succeed in school, and to graduate ready for the rigors of college and high quality careers.
- **Achievement Mentoring (AM):** a school-based prevention and intervention program, developed by Dr. Brenna Bry, that pairs adult school staff with students in one-to-one mentoring relationships proven to reduce problem behaviors and improve academics among students at risk of dropping out of high school.
- **Campaign Connect/Community Schools:** a comprehensive, data-driven and relationship-based approach to engaging the school community in coordinated initiatives designed to improve student outcomes.
- **Customized solutions:** CSS also creates customized solutions in response to specific needs of schools. We have designed custom solutions for over 150 public and private schools throughout the United States.

OUR RESULTS

CSS's work has been rigorously evaluated by research organizations, universities, and independent evaluators. Results consistently demonstrate that we improve students' academic, social, and emotional skills, resulting in: significantly lower dropout rates; improved grades; fewer discipline referrals; and avoidance of high-risk behaviors. A four-year longitudinal, randomized-control study conducted by Rutgers University and funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services found that *CSS improves the graduation rates of its student participants by nine percentage points and cuts by half the number of male students who would otherwise drop out.*

For more information about CSS, please contact Dr. Margo Ross at mross@supportiveschools.org

You can also visit our website at www.supportiveschools.org