



I'm bored and lonely ...



March 2, 2017

Dear Friend,

Too many students - particularly those in high school - are bored, lonely, and experiencing a variety of other negative feelings in school.

This was the focus of the TED-style talk I presented on February 2 at the [2017 National Mentoring Summit](#) entitled, *I'm Bored and Lonely: How to Help Schools Become Places Students Want to Be*. I shared our belief at CSS that **tapping into students' leadership potential is an underutilized strategy to curing - or, even better, preventing - the illness of school disengagement**. I was delighted to speak to colleagues from across the nation who care deeply about helping to combat the disengagement crisis in our nation's schools and think together about developing more solutions that reimagine the role of student from that of consumer of education services to that of partner in sustaining vibrant learning communities.

Around the time of this talk, I was so pleased to see that local [press](#) had picked up that Clinton City High School in Clinton, North Carolina was doing just that. The school will become one of 11 schools across the state to activate its older students to play a leadership role in helping younger students make a successful transition into high school through implementing [Peer Group Connection \(PGC\)](#).

In other updates, I'd like to acknowledge the generosity of several CSS partners:

- Both **The Frances L. & Edwin L. Cummings Memorial Fund** and **The Charles Crane Family Foundation** have made their third consecutive investment into CSS to help expand PGC in high-need communities. The Cummings Fund has again made a \$25,000 grant to support our work in New York City and the Crane Foundation has again made a \$10,000 grant to support our work in Baltimore City.
- We are also pleased to thank **The Duke Endowment** for making a second investment into CSS. A grant of \$100,000 will support Teen PEP in North Carolina high schools located in high-need communities.

We are so thankful for the ongoing support of these long-time partners.

Warmest wishes,

Daniel F. Oscar
CEO

P.S. Please check out [open positions](#). And, as always, if you'd like additional information about anything you've read, simply hit reply and let me know. I look forward to hearing from you.