

Empowering Students to

# FOCUS ON THE FUTURE



Communities  
In Schools  
Jacksonville





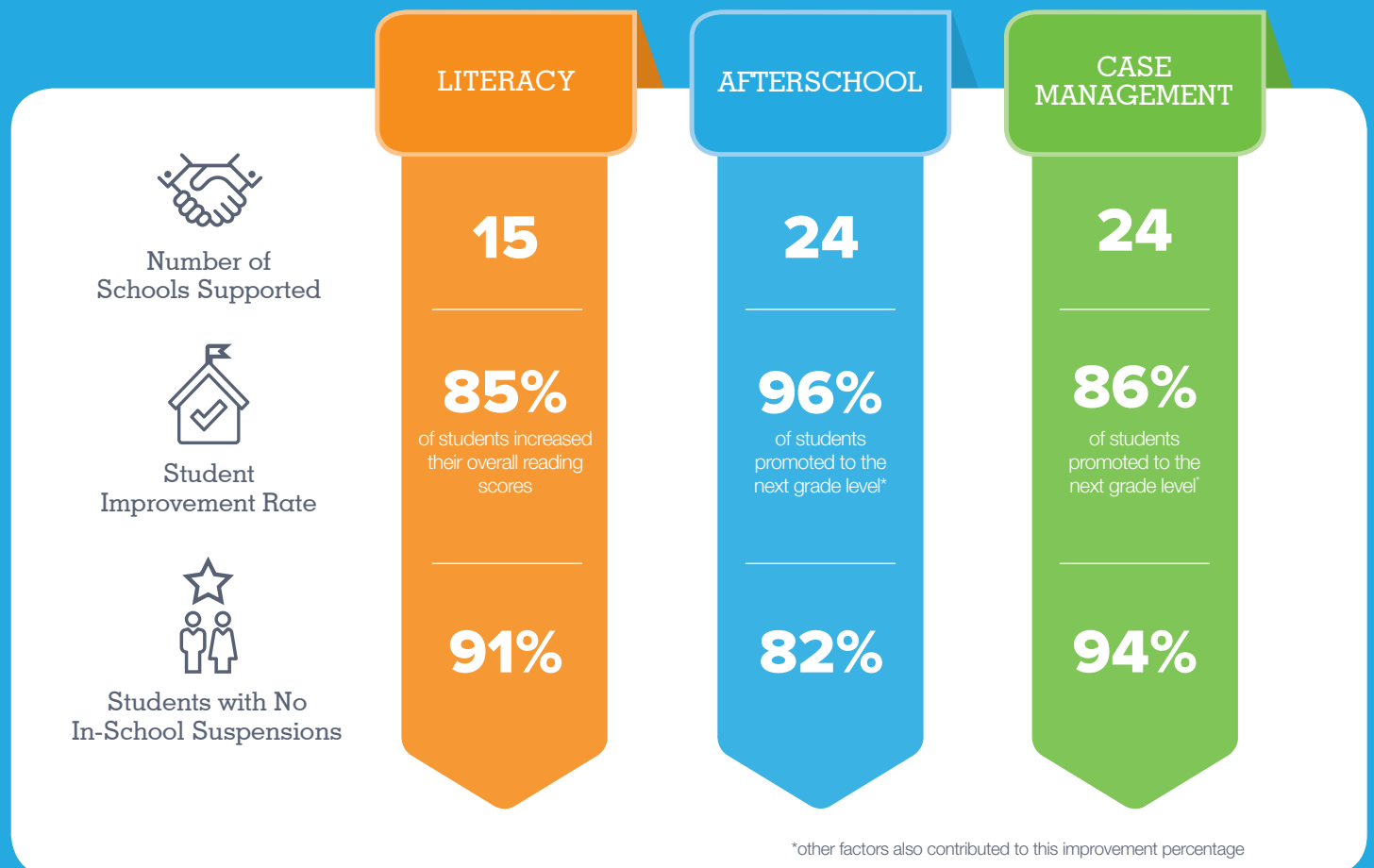
**Communities In Schools of Jacksonville is a leading dropout prevention organization that has helped Duval County students stay on the path to graduation since 1990.**

We serve thousands of struggling students every year by connecting them with positive adult role models that are embedded within the schools countywide.

Our literacy, afterschool and case management programs are designed to make a lasting impact on our students – encouraging them to stay in school, pursue higher education and become stronger, more vibrant members of the community.

## KEEPING STUDENTS ON TRACK FOR GRADUATION

Over the past year, we have taken significant steps in empowering Duval County students to achieve in school and succeed in life. The Duval County Public Schools graduation rate has continued to improve with a reported four percent increase from last year. The 2017-2018 graduation rate is more than 85 percent and is a county record.



# PROGRAMS

## Literacy:

Reading is the most important skill for students to develop as it sets the foundation for their entire academic careers. The Duval Reads Literacy Program provides intensive one-on-one and small group literacy tutoring for students in elementary school.

## Afterschool:

Many of the toughest challenges for students occur after the school bell rings. Whether they face hunger or social challenges, elementary and middle school students find a safe environment at our afterschool program to complete homework, participate in enrichment activities and connect with their classmates.

## Case Management:

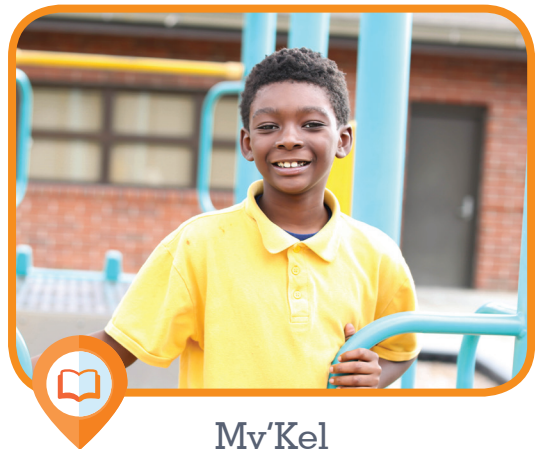
We place full-time site coordinators directly on school campuses throughout Duval County to support students who are at risk of falling behind or dropping out. Our case management program provides access to many important services, including food assistance, home visits and coordinated parental involvement.

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# SIGNATURE EVENT

Our annual Rising Stars fundraiser gives our students the opportunity to showcase their talents while raising funds for the programs in which they participate. This past year, more than 400 people attended the event, raising \$42,000. This fundraiser, held in the spring, continues to improve each year and celebrates our students' accomplishments inside and outside of the classroom.

97%  
OF CIS SENIORS  
GRADUATED



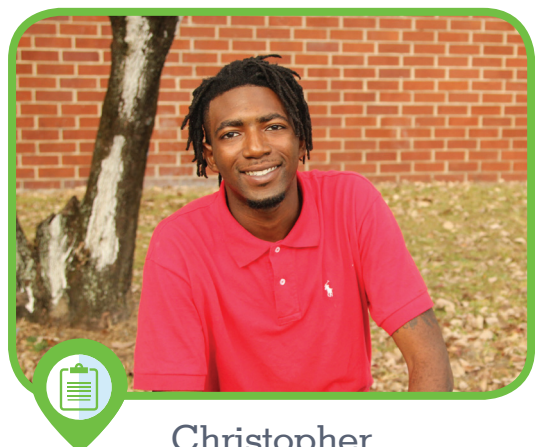
My'Kel

"I didn't do well on my reading tests and needed help learning to read. I wanted to learn, and Ms. Harris helped me give me the tools I needed to get better."



Emma

"I was nervous about starting middle school, but I joined the CIS afterschool program and got to learn all about robots. I love all the things I've been able to explore with CIS."



Christopher

"I used to be homeless. Before that, I went from foster home to foster home. I lashed out and fell behind in school - until I met Ms. Cunningham with CIS. She helped me overcome my anger and focus on my future."

"It is relationships, not programs, that change children. A great program simply creates the environment for healthy relationships to form between adults and children. Young people thrive when adults care about them on a one-to-one level, and when they also have a sense of belonging to a caring community."

– **Bill Milliken**, *Founder of Communities In Schools*



Communities  
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Jacksonville

6261 Dupont Station Court East, Jacksonville, FL 32217

| 904.344.3900

| [CISJax.org](http://CISJax.org)

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