School Libraries & Student Achievemer

School Librarians are Linked to Improved Standardized **Reading Test Scores**

Studies conducted over the past two decades, both in Colorado and nationwide, show that students in schools with endorsed librarians score better on standardized achievement tests in reading. compared with students in schools



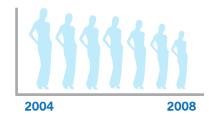
This increase in scores exists regardless of:

Student Poverty Level



In a Colorado study, the presence of school librarians positively impacted students' standardized reading scores even when controlling for student poverty (free and reduced-cost meal status).

Overall Staffing Losses



In a national study, even if schools had overall staff declines between 2004 and 2008, students' standardized reading scores were better in schools that maintained or gained a librarian during this time period.

What other school library characteristics are associated with better test scores?

School Librarians Teaching Information Literacy Skills to Students 3



Extended Library & Staff Hours³



More Student Visits⁵



Staffed by Endorsed Librarian¹



School Librarians Providing In-Service Training to Teachers



Flexible Scheduling³



Collaborative Planning Between School Librarians & Teachers 3, 4



Larger & Newer Collections 3, 4, 5



Higher Expenditures 3, 4, 5



See www.lrs.org/data-tools/school-libraries/impact-studies/ for a list of school library impact studies.

1. Lance, K. C., & Hofschire, L. (2012). Change in school librarian staffing linked with change in CSAP reading performance, 2005 to 2011. Retrieved from http://www.lrs.org/documents/closer_look/CO4_2012_Closer_Look_Report.pdf
2. Lance, K. C., & Hofschire, L. (2011, September 1). Something to shout about: New research shows that more librarians means higher reading scores. School Library Journal. Retrieved from http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/sli/printissue/currentissue/s91612-427/something_to_shout_about_new.html.csp
3. Lance, K. C. (2000). How school librarians help kids achieve standards: The second Colorado study. Salt Lake City: Hi Willow Research and Publishing.
4. Lance, K. C. (1993). The impact of school library media centers on academic achievement. Salt Lake City: Hi Willow Research and Publishing.
5. Francis, H.B., Lance, C. K., & Lietzau Z. (2010). School librarians continue to help students achieve standards: The third Colorado study (2010). Retrieved from: http://www.lrs.org/documents/closer_look/CO3_2010_Closer_Look_Report.pdf





