

**Applicant:** IDEA Public Schools • **Project Period:** October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2018

**Project Title:** *IDEA Research-based Approaches to Improve Social and Emotional Supports for Student Achievement (IDEA RAISES Students Achievement)*

**Project Addresses Both Absolute Priorities:** High-need middle-grade students

**Project Director:** Elizabeth (Lisa) Cavazos, IDEA Director of Student Advocacy, Parent and Community Engagement

**Project Goals:** 1) Create a foundation of non-cognitive skills development that improves the overall school climate and culture; and 2) Integrate non-cognitive skills and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) throughout the entire curriculum, school day, and learning community. Evaluation will measure specific results across four key **outcome** areas: 1) Improved teacher retention; 2) Improved student persistence; 3) Improved student academic performance; and 4) Improved teacher/student/family satisfaction.

**Project Summary:** *IDEA RAISES Student Achievement* will combine IDEA's existing rigorous academic program (implemented across all schools in all regions) with the successful integration of **Communities in Schools Site Coordinators** (CISSC, an existing approach) and Yale School of Emotional Intelligence's **RULER Method** (an existing tool for building non-cognitive skills and emotional intelligence) to demonstrate the potential this particular combination of interventions has across a single, high-need geographic region (San Antonio, TX). Specifically, IDEA will provide one full-time CISSC effectively bringing CIS's access to a full range of community resources to each of the ten IDEA San Antonio College Preparatory campuses that will exist by grant year 3. This project features partnerships with CIS and Copia Consulting (Project Evaluator) and other implementation support from Yale.

**Number of Students Impacted:** 4,984 students in grades 6-8 by the end of the project period