

## KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

Research indicates the following as **critical factors** in quality education and academic achievement:

- **Significant funding** of the library
- **Open access** to the library
- **Flexible scheduling** based on students' needs
- **Collaborative planning** by teachers and librarians to build units of instruction
- Integrating content and information literacy

*Research indicates that the strength of the school library is a clear predictor of academic achievement.*

**Impact:**  
Schools with stronger library programs average 10-12% higher on test scores.

### Resources:

Lance, Keith Curry. "Libraries and Student Achievement." *Threshold*. Winter 2004 [www.ciconline.org](http://www.ciconline.org)

"The Principal's Manual for Your School Library Media Program." American Association of School Librarians. 2000

### LA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

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LA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

**TO: Administrators**  
**FROM: LA Association of School Librarians**  
**RE: NCLB, GLEs & Your School's Library**

How can your school be sure to leave no child behind?

The best insurance is a strong school library program.



## STRONG SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAMS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT!

### **14 States Can't Be Wrong.\***

State studies demonstrate the benefits of school libraries and library media specialists on student academic achievement. Since 2000 over 5 teams of researchers in 14 states have gathered data from over 4,000 schools—all levels, all sizes—and their communities. The building-level summary test scores gathered from these studies represent over 1 million students.



\*School Library Impact Studies

<http://www.lrs.org/Impact.asp>

*Schools with higher rated libraries have better test scores than schools with lower rated libraries.*

School libraries are a powerful force in the lives of our children. The school library's contribution to academic achievement has been documented empirically.

The Library Research Service (Denver, CO) Web Site <http://www.lrs.org> includes recent research from 14 states on the impact of school library media programs on student achievement using test scores.

A strong school library program has:

- Support from building and district administration.
- Certified school library media specialist and clerical support.
- Flexibility in scheduling classes to provide services at the point-of-need.
- A framework in place to support collaboration among teachers and the library media specialist to promote an integrated curriculum of information literacy skills with classroom content.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO AS AN ADMINISTRATOR?

Meet with your library media specialist. Share the goal of developing a vision of your school library media program.

**Consider these questions together:**

- What is our mission?
- How can we work together as partners to achieve this mission?
- How can we encourage collaboration with teachers?
- How can the library media specialist become more involved with the curriculum?
- What information literacy skills do our students need to have when they leave our school?

Consider your library media center budget. A good way to start is to bolster your non-fiction collection.

Encourage your library media specialist to network with other local librarians and the Louisiana Association of School Librarians. Library media specialists often work in isolation from one another and need to share and learn from each other in this changing world of information and technology. Students and teachers will benefit from every workshop and conference your library media specialist attends.