

Summary

The Impact of School-Based Mentoring On Student Achievement and School Engagement in Elementary Aged At-Risk Students

-Program Evaluation of Kids Hope USA-

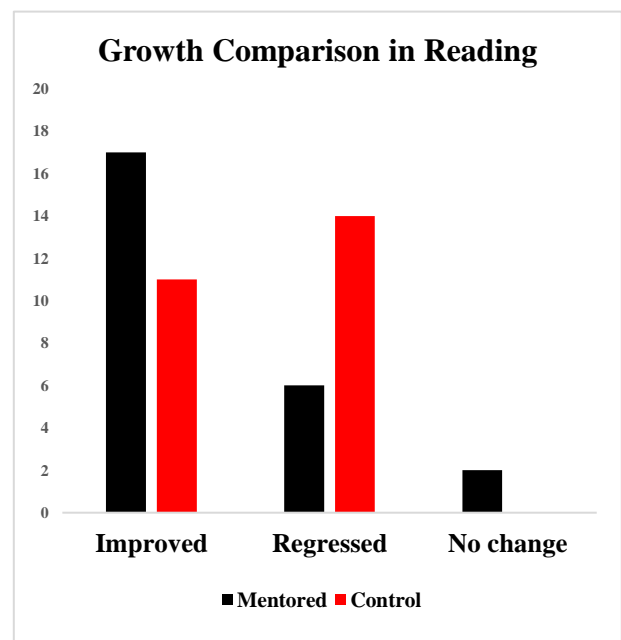
University of Houston College of Education

Gutierrez, S. PhD

(Chief School Officer, Houston ISD)

Key findings

- Mentored students had higher mean scores in reading and math than paired matches in control group.
- Mentored students showed better year-to-year growth/improvement in reading and math, with reading showing the largest gains. **(See chart)**
- “Analysis demonstrates that students made great gains compared to the control group *because of their participation in Kids Hope USA.*”
- “Analysis showed the at-risk **achievement gap was eliminated**, and that the at-risk students equaled or surpassed achievement in reading and math by students not at risk of dropping out.”



Conclusion

“This school-based mentoring program has a positive impact on student achievement.”

Additional finding

Mentoring is useful in building **connectedness** to the school that results in better **attendance and engagement**, critical to decreasing risky behavior.