



## ***What is the impact of your program?***

Schools love CIS. In a recent survey, more than 96% of teachers reported that CIS's chess program was effective and that they would want it to return. Below are the percentages of teachers who "agreed" or "strongly agreed" with the following statements:

- Most students can play a legal game of chess: **95%**
- Most students actively participated in the chess class: **96%**
- Chess had a meaningful positive influence on my students: **96%**
- Most students applied the lessons of chess beyond the chessboard: **89%**
- Learning and practicing chess enhanced my students' cooperation skills: **92%**
- Learning and practicing chess enhanced my students' understanding of math concepts: **89%**
- Learning and practicing chess enhanced my students' analytic and logical reasoning skills: **92%**
- Learning and practicing chess helped my students concentrate better: **90%**
- Learning and practicing chess improved my students' behavior: **86%**

We are currently engaged in a planning process to strengthen program evaluation in all programs.

## ***What happens to students after the program?***

We believe that CIS helps students become life-long learners. The impact on a particular child intensifies with time. Our engagement starts with a weekly chess session, then the child can join the after-school chess club and play in tournaments. After graduating from middle school, many students choose to stay with us by joining the College Bound Program. 100% of the seniors in the program graduate on time, and 95% are accepted into colleges of their choice within 6 months of graduation, many are first in their families to attain higher education. The newly established College Success Initiative helps students adjust to college life, graduate on time and launch professional careers after graduation. Some of CIS alums stay with us even longer as they become regular supporters, volunteers and Board Members.

## ***How large is CIS?***

With an annual budget of \$2.6M and staff of 19, each year we educate and engage over 10,000 students in 40+ public schools. Our major funding sources include individuals (29%), investments (23%), foundations and corporations (19%), and City government (18%).

## ***What is the impact of my gift?***

A gift to CIS has a great and immediate impact, ensuring that we can provide all our best-in-class programs, in-school and after-school, including 25 annual chess tournaments that attract thousands of players, at no charge to participants. We cover all the costs for each student. In addition, we maintain a very low operating cost, spending less than 20% of our budget on administration and fundraising, so that over 80% of each dollar we receive goes directly to fund programs. We also offer many ways for donors of \$5,000 or more to target their gifts to fund programs that meet their philanthropic needs. Please see our Named Giving Opportunities.

## ***What kind of donor experience do I get from supporting CIS?***

We regularly send e-newsletters and provide updates on the progress of our young learners, and we invite our supporters to attend special donor events twice a year. We also invite donors to see our programs in action by visiting schools, our chess tournaments, summer camps, and our high-school program at CIS's headquarters in Midtown. Corporate employees serve as educators and mentors for our College Bound students through a variety of programs, such as job shadowing and internships. Chess players are invited to challenge students to a game at our events, classes, tournaments, and College Bound Program chess nights.

## ***How can I get involved?***

In addition to donating or making a bequest, we are always looking for great board members, for people to host fundraisers and fundraisers, and for folks who want to help us heighten our profile, including on social media. We invite guest chess coaches to teach small group classes of our high-school students. We welcome young professionals to speak on career panels to inspire high-school students and alumni.