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Chapa Middle School Principal Lisa Walls Wins Prestigious National Award for Helping Kids Succeed In School And In Life

Kyle, Texas - Communities In Schools (CIS), the nation's largest and most effective dropout prevention organization, announced the recipients of the 12th annual All In for Students Awards. Chapa Middle School Principal Lisa Walls has been chosen as this year's *All In for Students Awards* recipient in the school principal category.

"Principal Walls is a passionate leader who cares deeply for everyone she works with – her students, families, faculty, and staff. She is also a passionate advocate for having Communities In Schools on campus to provide her students and families with critical supports. It is because of our strong partnership with Principal Walls that Communities In Schools has been able to meet so many students' needs at Chapa Middle School." – Suki Steinhauser, CEO, Communities In Schools of Central Texas

Through her Family Recipe for Success events, Principal Walls ensures that parents are engaged with the school, creating an atmosphere of safety and support for students. Communities In Schools of Central Texas and Principal Walls agree: when a student feels supported and safe throughout the school day, they are more likely to attend. Chapa Middle, once home to some of the lowest attendance rates in the district, has decreased its chronic absenteeism rate under Principal Walls.

By partnering with Communities In Schools of Central Texas, Principal Walls has connected her students to an emergency fund for families in crisis, giving them access to food, hygiene and school supplies. CIS has also helped to bring in hundreds of volunteer mentors, and assisted Principal Walls with initiatives such as anti-bullying campaigns. She works closely with Chapa Middle's CIS site coordinator to create a positive school environment for not only her students, but for their families as well.

The *All In for Students Awards*, created in 2007, honors the exemplary dedication of CIS staff, educators, community partners and CIS alumni, who go all in for students, empowering them to stay in school, graduate and go on to brighter futures. The awards ceremony will be held in Charleston, South Carolina at Communities In Schools' annual Leadership Town Hall on September 13, 2018.



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About Communities In Schools

Communities In Schools (CIS) is the nation's largest organization dedicated to empowering at-risk students to stay in school and on a path to a brighter future. Working directly inside more than 2,300 schools across the country, we connect kids to caring adults and community resources designed to help them succeed. We do whatever it takes to ensure that all kids—regardless of the challenges they may face—have what they need to realize their potential.