

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/impact-of-school-librarians-on-elementary-student/>

This video discusses the critical role of certified school librarians in enhancing student achievement and the challenges faced in demonstrating their impact. It highlights that many schools lack certified librarians, often having only volunteers or parents, leading to concerns about the effectiveness of library services. The speaker and their colleague, both school librarians, have conducted research to provide strong evidence of the benefits that certified librarians bring, especially in supporting students' research skills and collaborating with teachers across curriculum requirements.

The conversation emphasizes the decline in school librarian positions, particularly during budget cuts, and the need for advocacy supported by robust evidence to retain these roles. Existing studies indicate a correlation between the presence of trained librarians and higher student performance in subjects like math and language arts, but the speaker asserts the need for more rigorous experimental research to control for various influencing factors.

They outline a quasi-experimental study conducted in North Carolina, comparing student achievement scores between those in schools with certified librarians and those in schools without. The results reveal that students in schools with librarians perform better academically. Despite this, the speaker notes that more research is needed to uncover the specific reasons for these positive outcomes. The concluding remarks stress the importance of school librarians for student learning and call for further investigation into their multifaceted contributions to education.