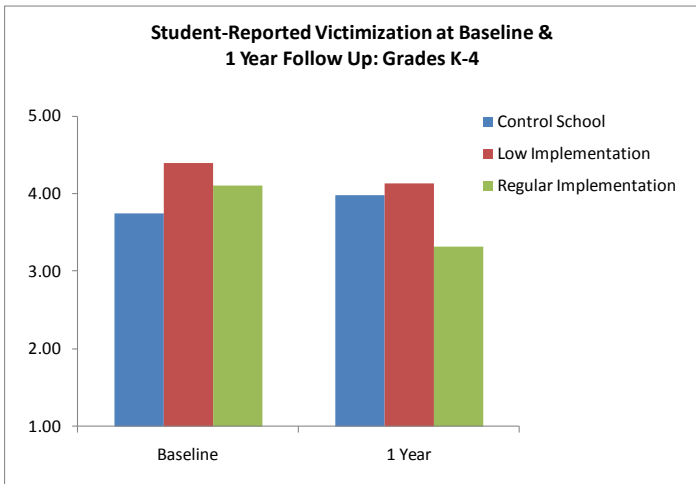


Four schools participated in The Ophelia Project's CASS: Creating a Safe School pilot program during the 2010-2011 school year. One school, labeled "Control" did not use any CASS activities or programming. This school represents what average schools without CASS look like. The school labeled "Low Implementation" had CASS class meetings and parent nights at roughly half the recommended amount. The other two schools are grouped under "Regular Implementation" followed all program guidelines as recommended by The Ophelia Project.

## Kindergarten – Fourth Grade

At the 1 year follow-up, students in the regular implementation schools reported significantly less victimization compared to students in both the control school and the low implementation school.



**What does this mean?** In CASS schools, young students are less likely to feel hurt or harmed through peer aggression! Also, schools with more CASS intervention showed a greater drop in victimization than the low intervention – which shows the more you put into CASS at this age level, the more you get out and the safer your students feel!

*“People in our school treat everyone with respect.”*

*“In our school, aggression is viewed as everyone’s problem.”*

**Students in the regular implementation schools reported more agreement with these two statements compared to the control and low implementation schools. Both of these statements are core beliefs of CASS Schools!**

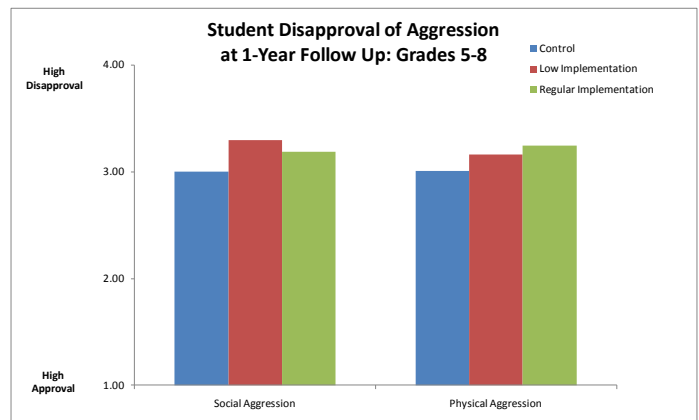
## Fifth – Eighth Grade

6<sup>th</sup> grade students reported witnessing more aggression than did students in all other grades.

Compared to the control school, students in the implementation schools (both low and regular) showed:

- *more positive attitudes and behavior*
- *more positive views of staff*

At follow-up, students in all implementation schools were more disapproving of aggression than were students in the control school. This was true for both social and physical forms of aggression.



**What does this mean?** In CASS Schools, students are less likely to consider aggressive behaviors to be acceptable or “normal.”

**Initial evidence suggests the CASS program is having the intended impact on student, staff, and peer norms about aggression.**

*We should expect to see more changes in student behavior in the following years of CASS!*