The 2018 Gallup Student Poll surveyed 8,287 South Carolina students at 30 arts-rich (Arts in Basic Curriculum Project or Distinguished Arts Program) schools.

Here are some key findings

1. S.C. students in arts-rich schools report higher hope and engagement than the overall mean.

   - **Hopeful students are:**
     - 2.8x more likely to say they get excellent grades
     - 4.1x more likely to be engaged at school
     - 3.1x more likely to strongly agree they do well in school than their discouraged peers.*

   - **Engaged students are:**
     - 2.5x more likely to say they get excellent grades
     - 4.5x more likely to be hopeful
     - 2.5x more likely to strongly agree they do well in school than their actively disengaged peers.*

   * Gallup.com

2. An arts-rich school can help neutralize the effects of poverty.

   Surveyed arts-rich schools with free/reduced-price lunch program participation 75% or greater scored higher than the overall mean in the four elements linked to desirable student outcomes that are measured by the Gallup Student Poll:
   - engagement
   - hope
   - entrepreneurial aspiration
   - career/financial literacy

3. The longer a school is arts-rich, the more its students report:
   - being hopeful and engaged
   - having entrepreneurial aspirations
   - having career/financial literacy

This ongoing research is being conducted as a partnership between SouthCarolinaArts.com and PalmettoArtsEd.org.
The items on the Gallup Student Poll where students from S.C. arts-rich schools scored the highest above the national mean are:

- The adults at my school care about me
- I have at least one teacher who makes me feel excited about the future
- I have a great future ahead of me
- I know I will find a good job in the future
- I will invent something that changes the world
- I plan to start my own business

To learn more about this important research and how it potentially aligns with the world-class skills and life and career characteristics outlined in the Profile of the S.C. Graduate, visit PalmettoArtsEd.org.

In a 2015 national poll, Gallup asked how Americans measure the effectiveness of public schools. The percentages of respondents who considered the following things “very important” are:

- Students receive scores on a standardized test: 14%
- Students feel hopeful about their future: 77%
- Students score students receive on a standardized test: 14%

* Gallup.com