

## The Poll

The Gallup Student Poll is a **multi-year effort** to engage the **largest-ever group of America's students** in grades 5 through 12 to measure their **hope** for the future, **engagement** with school, and **well-being** in the community.

The Gallup Student Poll captures the youth voice, a critical but too often missing part of the national dialogue surrounding dropout prevention and college readiness. The poll gives young people a forum to express the opportunities and challenges in their daily lives, and supplies teachers, administrators, and community leaders with an accurate, useful, and holistic picture of students and the outcomes they desire.

## The Variables

**Hope:** the ideas and energy we have for the future

**Drives** attendance, credits earned, and GPA of high school students. **Predicts** GPA and retention in college. Hope scores are more robust predictors of college success than high school GPA, SAT, and ACT scores.

**Engagement:** our involvement in and enthusiasm for school

**Distinguishes** between high performing and low performing schools.

**Well-Being:** how we think about and experience our lives

**Addresses** how students are doing today and predicts their future success. **Strongly correlates** with credits earned and GPA; specifically, a thriving student earns 10% more credits and an average 2.9 GPA (of 4.0) whereas a struggling student completes fewer credits with a 2.4 average.

## The Commitment

**Free, online, and confidential,** the Gallup Student Poll is administered, aggregated, and analyzed by Gallup over a two or three-week period, with no lag reporting of results. The poll will be conducted twice a year, in March and October, and is available in English or Spanish. Schools are responsible for scheduling students in grades 5 through 12 to take the survey during school hours on Internet-accessible computers. Completion of the survey questions, demographics, and one randomly assigned index will take the average student under 10 minutes to complete. The survey is accessible through the users' secure account created by a designated project leader in each district.

## The Benefits

**Receive real-time results.** You receive a simple, online scorecard within days after the polls close, reporting the level of the hope, engagement, and well-being of your students.

**Anticipate problems before they happen.** Gallup Student Poll results predict how your students will perform in the future. Its outcomes can help identify effective interventions for struggling students.

**Improve outcomes for youth.** Be on the cutting edge of student polling. The poll provides key insights for schools and communities and relevant measurements that can lead to increased graduation rates, better teacher effectiveness, and higher student aspirations for college and careers.

**Implement community-based solutions.** The scorecard can be a "wake-up call" for how everyone in a community can participate both inside and outside the classroom to improve outcomes for local youth.

The Gallup Student Poll facilitates **new conversations and tailored solutions for bold, lasting reforms to ensure the success of students, schools, and communities.**

TO PARTICIPATE, VISIT [WWW.GALLUPSTUDENTPOLL.COM](http://WWW.GALLUPSTUDENTPOLL.COM)

**What does the Gallup Student Poll measure?**

The poll gauges the hope, engagement, and well-being of students in grades 5 through 12.

**Why should our school district participate in the Gallup Student Poll?**

Over 1.2 million students drop out of high school annually, with each dropout cohort costing the nation upwards of \$330 billion in lost income over their lifetime. This crisis affects everyone, and thus the discussion around potential solutions to increase graduation rates and career readiness must include all of us. This poll broadens the conversation to include the youth voice. It also has the power to enhance integrated, community-wide efforts to ensure better outcomes for youth by keeping them in school and creating a more positive future for them and our nation.

**Who is sponsoring the Gallup Student Poll?**

Gallup, America's Promise Alliance, and the American Association of School Administrators are partnering for this innovative study of American youth.

**When does the Gallup Student Poll occur?**

The Gallup Student Poll will be administered in the spring and fall of each school year. The poll will "go live" from September 29 through October 30, 2009. Principals will select the best two or three-week field period within that timeframe from Tuesday through Friday for their students to take the online survey. Students must take the survey during school hours, since they will not have access to the secure Web site elsewhere.

**How is the Gallup Student Poll administered?**

Superintendents or designated project leaders will register their school district through the Gallup Student Poll Web site by providing the district's national district ID number and general school information. The district administrator will invite a school level user to register an account for the school. The users have access to the survey after they create their personal account.

**How secure is the Gallup Student Poll data collection system?**

The Web-based survey uses the HTTPS transfer protocol to ensure secure transmission of information. HTTPS is the standard for security-sensitive communications on the Internet.

**What are the expectations for each school participating in the survey?**

The school should provide an opportunity for every student in grades 5 through 12 to take the survey during school hours. The fielding period will last for two weeks. Schools should schedule blocks of time for each class to take the survey, rotating students as they complete the survey.

**Which students should take the Gallup Student Poll?**

Students district-wide in grades 5 through 12 will complete the survey on a personal computer in a classroom or lab during school hours.

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**How will the privacy of students be secured?**

Individual responses will be strictly confidential. Under no circumstances will Gallup reveal personal responses to anyone.

**What types of questions are included in the Gallup Student Poll?**

The Gallup Student Poll contains 20 core items measuring hope, engagement, and well-being. These items ask what students do, how they think, and how they feel about their lives at home, in school, and in their communities. Students also answer demographics, and a short, randomly assigned index item.

**When will my school receive results?**

The results will be shared with the superintendents and principals via an online scorecard within days after the survey ends.

**How much will it cost to participate in the survey?**

There is no fee for participating in the Gallup Student Poll. Gallup and America's Promise Alliance provide support for the recruitment and implementation of the survey.

**Who will be able to see my results?**

Principals will receive a scorecard reporting the level of hope, engagement, and well-being of the students in their school. District superintendents will also have access to district-wide data. Note: The first person to register an account at the Gallup Student Poll Web site for either a district or school will have access to the data. These primary users are responsible for pushing the scorecard and data to key stakeholders within the school and community.

**What equipment is needed to administer the survey?**

Schools will need to provide standard computers with Internet access. Each school will need to determine the appropriate number of computers needed to administer the survey based upon the student population.

**How long will the survey take?**

The entire survey process will take each student about 8.5 minutes to complete.

**What should schools do once they receive the results?**

Gallup Web-based solutions will help schools determine specific initiatives around the improvement of student well-being and the reduction in the dropout rate.

**Where can I find more information, or sign-up to participate?**

Visit [www.gallupstudentpoll.com](http://www.gallupstudentpoll.com).

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