TRANSFORMING EQUITY:
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND HOPE IN ARTS-RICH SCHOOLS
ARTS IN BASIC CURRICULUM PROJECT

WHO WE ARE
WHAT WE DO

- Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Advancement Grants are funded by the SC Arts Commission. The grants support ongoing comprehensive planning, strategic projects and implementation of standards-based arts education initiatives.

- Funds may be used for arts materials, equipment, professional development, field trips, artist-in-residence programs and other activities as defined by the school’s strategic arts education plan.
THE ARTS CAN TRANSFORM SCHOOL CULTURE
PROFILE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATE

WORLD-CLASS KNOWLEDGE

Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), art and social sciences

SKILLS

Creativity and innovation
Critical thinking and problem solving
Collaboration and teamwork
Communication, information, media and technology
Knowing how to learn

LIFE & CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Integrity
Self-direction
Global perspective
Perseverance
Work ethic
Interpersonal skills
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LIFE & CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Integrity
Self-direction
Global perspective
Perseverance
Work ethic
Interpersonal skills
KNOWLEDGE

SKILLS

CHARACTERISTICS

ARTS
MEASURES

○ Hope
○ Engagement
○ Entrepreneurial Aspirations
○ Career and Financial Literacy

METHODOLOGY

○ 6 million students have completed the survey over 10 years
○ 24 core items
○ 5th-12th grade
○ Takes place over the course of October
○ Digital survey – can take place in computer lab or on iPads, Chromebooks, etc.
In a 2015 national poll, Gallup asked how Americans measure the effectiveness of public schools. The percentages of respondents who considered the following items “very important” are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How engaged students are with their coursework</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>how hopeful students feel about their future</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of students who graduate from high school</td>
<td>69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of high school graduates who go to college or community college</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of graduates who get jobs immediately after completing high school</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scores that students receive on standardized tests</td>
<td>14%</td>
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Surveyed Americans believe **ENGAGEMENT** and **HOPE** are critical elements for effective schools.

**ENGAGEMENT**
The involvement in and enthusiasm a student has for school.

**HOPE**
The ideas and energy a student has for the future.
ENGAGED STUDENTS ARE...

2.5x More likely to say they get excellent grades in school and do well in school

4.5x More likely to be hopeful in school

...than their actively disengaged peers
HOPEFUL STUDENTS ARE...

- **2.8x** More likely to say they get excellent grades in school and do well in school...
- **4.1x** More likely to be engaged in school...
- **2.2x** Less likely to say they missed a lot of school last year

...than their discouraged peers
• First time looking at data through an arts lens
• 30 Arts-rich schools across the state
• Compared to the national data
Gallup Student Poll

Engagement

South Carolina: 54%
- Engaged: 18%
- Not Engaged: 28%
- Actively Disengaged: 23%

U.S. Public Schools Overall: 47%
- Engaged: 23%
- Not Engaged: 30%
● 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
• There is a link between the AMOUNT OF TIME AS AN ARTS-RICH SCHOOL and an INCREASE IN STUDENT ENGAGEMENT.

• Students surveyed in arts-rich schools with free/reduced lunch program participation of 75% or greater scored HIGHER THAN THE OVERALL MEAN ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND HOPE.
PILOT PROJECTS

SUMMER READ TO SUCCEED DETAILS
- Required by 2014 legislation
- Mandatory for 3rd graders reading below grade level
- Successful completion required for promotion
- Same Scholastic reading curriculum implemented in control and arts-based schools
- Drama camp in afternoon at arts-based sites only
- Currently completed 3 years in Williamsburg County and 1 year in Jasper County
PILOT PROJECTS

- SUMMER READ TO SUCCEED CAMP RESULTS
  - Williamsburg 2017, 2018, 2019
    - Reading motivation
    - Torrence Test of Creativity
    - MAP and STAR reading assessment scores
  - Jasper 2019
    - Reading motivation
    - Torrence Test of Creativity
    - MAP reading assessment scores
STRATEGIC STEPS

● PUBLICATION PLAN
  ○ Website reporting results
  ○ National conferences
  ○ State conferences

● ARTS EDUCATION ADVOCACY
  ○ State Arts Advocacy Day, Feb 13, 2019
    - The state budget passed in June and included a $615,000 increase for the arts.
STRATEGIC STEPS

- State accountability to Profile of the South Carolina Graduate
STRATEGIC STEPS

● LONGITUDINAL WORK
  ○ Continuing with 30 original schools
  ○ Adding an additional 20 schools

● EXPAND THE SCOPE
  ○ Teacher Engagement and Hope survey to 20 schools

● INSIGHTS ON EQUITY
CONSIDER YOUR STATE’S ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADVOCACY

- How is this research **DIFFERENT FROM OTHER ARTS EDUCATION RESEARCH** you’ve seen/heard of?
CONSIDER YOUR STATE’S ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADVOCACY

● How is this research DIFFERENT FROM OTHER ARTS EDUCATION RESEARCH you’ve seen/heard of?

● How might this kind of research HELP CLOSE THE EQUITY GAP in your community?
CONSIDER YOUR STATE’S ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADVOCACY

- How is this research **DIFFERENT FROM OTHER ARTS EDUCATION RESEARCH** you’ve seen/heard of?

- How might this kind of research **HELP CLOSE THE EQUITY GAP** in your community?

- What innovative or different approaches has your community taken to **USE THE ARTS TO ADDRESS EQUITY GAPS** in education?
CLOSING THOUGHTS
CONTACT INFORMATION

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