



ACE National Executive Summary

March 2019

Key Academic Findings

- **ACE scholars graduate from high school at a higher rate** – 98.5% of ACE scholars graduated from high school – approximately 20.5 points higher than the rate of all high school students across the country.
- **More ACE scholars met the ACT benchmarks than their FRL-eligible peers** – a higher rate of ACE scholars met the separate ACT benchmarks than FRL-eligible students across the country in three of the four subjects.
- **A higher rate of ACE scholars are proficient at reading and math** – Using 4th and 8th grade NAEP scores as a national comparison point, a considerably higher percentage of ACE fourth graders (72%) posted a proficiency score in reading on a standardized test compared to their public school peers (all students 35%, FRL students 21%). Similarly, a greater proportion of ACE eighth graders (68%) tested at or above proficiency in math, than their public school peers (all students 43% FRL 16%).
- **ACE schools report higher college matriculation rates than across the country** – ACE-affiliated private schools boast a 97.3% college matriculation rate – which is nearly 27.5 points higher than the college matriculation rate of all American public-school students.

Key Findings from Parents

- **Academics and safety are driving factors for choice** – most ACE parents choose private schools due to the better academics (83.3%), the faith-based curriculum (83.3%) and the safer environment (83.1%).

ACE-affiliated Building Findings

- **ACE-affiliated schools have more experienced principals and teachers** – on average, a principal at an ACE-affiliated private school has more than 14.5 years of experience as a principal, and nearly eight of those years at their current private school (54.6%), compared to 8.1 years of experience for principals across the country. In addition, the tenure of teachers at their schools is 9.2 years – 1.2 years longer than the average tenure for a teacher nationally.
- **ACE-affiliated schools are at 75.9% capacity** – there are approximately 24,632 empty seats at ACE-affiliated schools.