



PDK/Gallup Poll: Flawed Look at Education Attitudes

CER Press Advisory
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The annual Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) and Gallup Organization's education poll was released today, offering a limited and distorted view of the public's attitudes toward most education issues.

The 39 year-old effort, which PDK acknowledges has been accused of bias in the past, asks questions regarding testing and accountability, asks respondents to grade public schools, what they believe about school choice and what reforms they feel best would improve schools. The questions are often narrow and misleading, and thus when PDK asks about reforms that are typically found to be held in strong favor by the public on more objective surveys, their support numbers register much lower.

This year an overwhelming majority of Americans gave public schools in general a grade of C or lower. Their own public schools they graded more favorably, a fact that has little to do with whether or not the schools actually perform well.

Respectable news outlets will recognize that while this latest education group survey may be of interest to their audiences, there are myriad additional surveys in which the data is very different. The Center for Education Reform has sponsored surveys annually that conflict with PDK data, as have other organizations.

CER offers additional information and examples of other [polls and surveys here](#), as well as in our [Polls and Surveys library](#).

Jeanne Allen, President of the Center for Education Reform, is available and is an articulate spokesperson on education who is often interviewed by national, regional and local news organizations about these issues. Please call Mark Weaver at 800-521-2118 with questions or for more information.

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The Center for Education Reform (CER) creates opportunities for and challenges obstacles to better education for America's communities. Founded in 1993, CER combines education policy with grassroots advocacy to foster positive and bold education reforms.

