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The First Year of Results from the **SmArts** Program (In layman's terms since were not all statisticians)

To date, we've put SmArts program into 55 Stark County schools for 10,000 kids. Most are short term SmArts projects from 1 – 3 months. In three schools we designed 36-month experiments to gather the data necessary to prove how integrating arts into the curriculum makes "smarter" kids. We then invited the Stark Educational Partnership to evaluate the results from the first year.

1) Jackson Middle School (Jackson Local School District): Year one showed that a test group of 6th graders involved in SmArts totally outperformed a control group that was not involved, and did so at the statistically significant level of 95%. **"We proved integrating arts into this classroom supercharged learning."**

2) Faircrest Memorial Middle School (Canton Local Schools). In year one 6th grade reading scores went up 4% as part of a 36-month objective of increasing them by 15%. **"We had a solid beginning towards showing how using the arts with the same group of students over time can improve learning."**

3) Gorrell Elementary (Massillon City Schools). The goal was to increase 4th grade reading scores by 5%. Reading scores actually went up by 11%. We then examined 4th grade writing scores in all Massillon public schools for last year. Overall, 4th grade writing scores went up by 2%. But at Gorrell where the arts were integrated into the curriculum, 4th grade writing scores skyrocketed by 23%. This is more than a one thousand percent difference. **"We are demonstrating the sheer power of the arts when it comes to increasing test scores for students."**

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