Final High School GPA, What's the Big Deal?

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Findings:
• A Pearson Correlation indicates there is a strong, positive correlation ($r = .533, n = 701, p < .05$) between Final-Year HS GPA and First-Semester College GPA.
• The $r^2$ value yields a shared variance of 28.4 percent between Final-Year HS GPA and First-Semester College GPA.

Suggestions For Future Practice:
Based on the findings of this qualitative, survey-based study, high schools and colleges/universities need to create a partnership that better prepares students for college, especially the students that have a GPA on the low end of the spectrum, or feel less confident about succeeding in college.

Because final high school GPA correlated to how well a student will do in college, and how prepared they will feel, high schools need to do more to encourage all students to be academically successful, not just the top 10%.

“While 76% of high schoolers with an A average go on to earn a bachelor’s degree or higher within 10 years, that number drops to 50% for B-average students - and further plummets to 27% for C-average students, and 12% for D-average students. For high schoolers with an F average, the figure is a mere 3%” (Wang, 2016, para. 3).