

Embargoed: 12:01am - 11 July 2017

More respect for teachers please

Teacher-parent partnerships, student engagement and rowdy classrooms

A high number of teachers feel disregarded by the parents of their students according to exclusive new research released today.

The ASG-ACE Teachers Report Card discovered 39 per cent of respondents feel that teachers are not highly regarded or disregarded by parents.

The report, a joint initiative between ASG and the Australian College of Educators (ACE) surveyed 380 teachers, found 80 per cent of educators engage with parents on a frequent or very frequent basis.

Overall, 81 per cent of educators believe the level of engagement between teachers and parents is about right, with 10 per cent believing it's too little, while nine per cent believe it's too much.

The research found the majority (85 per cent) of educators believe their views and the views of parents are either aligned or perfectly aligned. Similarly, 60 per cent of teachers feel parents either very rarely disagree or never disagree with their assessment of a child's learning development, with a further 37 per cent saying disagreement only happens sometimes.

The research found 96 per cent of teachers believe their ability to deal with disruptive behaviour in class is either adequate or more than adequate, however 10 per cent of teachers who have been in the profession for 20 years or less feel they have either an inadequate or very inadequate ability to deal with disruptive behaviour.

The report also found 29 per cent of educators believe the level of student engagement in their class is very good, with a further 59 per cent believing student behaviour is good.

ASG CEO John Velegrinis says the report is an insightful snapshot of teachers' beliefs regarding student and parent engagement at their school¹.

"We've heard the opinions of teachers who are at the coal face of the profession, day in, day out.

"Teachers, irrespective of the school type or the subjects they teach play a valuable and inspirational role in the development of our young people.

"But parents have an equally important role as established in the [ASG Parents Report Card](#). When parents have a better understanding of what their child is learning in school this helps them to further optimise educational outcomes," said Mr Velegrinis.

The Australian College of Educators is a professional association that represents teachers across all sectors and systems. CEO Helen Jentz says it is important educators are

¹ Government schools – a school that is conducted by or on behalf of the government of a state or territory. Faith based schools – these are sometimes known as systemic schools i.e. managed by a centralised system authority and some are independent schools. Private schools – some private schools are also classified as independent schools i.e. set up and governed on an individual school basis and answerable to a governing board or management committee.

offered the resources they need to shine.

"The survey reveals the challenges teachers, regardless of school type, face on a daily basis.

"It's heartening the vast majority of educators are satisfied and proud of what they do, but more needs to be done. We all have a role to play to lift the levels of student and parent engagement at schools and detail why the standing of the teaching profession must be more valued by the broader public," said Ms Jentz.

For more information about ASG call 131 ASG (131 274) or visit www.asg.com.au

For more information about ACE call 03 9035 5473 or visit www.austcolled.com.au

Editor's notes

The Australian Scholarships Group (ASG) is a member owned organisation, helping to create educational opportunities for children. ASG has been helping families and their children for more than 40 years. During this time, more than 530,000 children have been enrolled with ASG and more than \$2.5 billion in education benefits and scholarship payments returned to members. For more information visit: www.asg.com.au

The Australian College of Educators (ACE) provides a collective voice for all Australian educators. It advocates, leads and drives positive change and encourages open, collaborative discussion to enable their broad membership to provide the best outcomes for Australian students across all levels of education.

Media contact

For further information or to arrange interviews with:

- ASG CEO John Velegrinis;
- ACE CEO Helen Jentz;
- A teacher, please contact:

David McHugh

Clout PR & Content

Mobile: 0455 225 688

Email: david@cloutpr.com.au

Abdi Noor

ASG Head of Stakeholder Relations & Communications

Mobile: 0402 837 758

Email: anoor@asg.com.au