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ASG-ACE Teachers Report Card – Summary

The ASG-ACE Teachers Report Card discovered about a fifth of teachers (21 per cent) have considered leaving the profession in the past three months. This figure jumps to 27 per cent for government teachers compared to 22 per cent of faith based school teachers and 11 per cent of private school educators¹.

On a positive note, teachers are passionate and love their jobs with 96 per cent of educators who find teaching very rewarding and 91 percent are very satisfied or satisfied with their profession according to exclusive new research released today.

The report, a joint initiative between ASG and the Australian College of Educators (ACE) surveyed 380 teachers and also revealed almost half of educators (49 per cent) believe there is too much standardised testing (e.g. NAPLAN) at schools, while only three per cent of teachers surveyed believe there is too little.

When school types are factored in, 61 per cent of faith based school teachers believe the amount of standardised testing is about right, compared to 45 per cent of private school educators and 42 per cent of government school teachers.

Almost a quarter of teachers (23 per cent) also believe the amount of homework students receive is too much, while 10 per cent of educators believe there is not enough homework.

The ASG-ACE Teachers Report Card discovered 48 per cent of educators feel stressed either most of the time or fairly often in a typical week, while faith based school teachers say they have the worst work-life balance, with 74 per cent reporting a typical week is either less balanced than they would like or not balanced at all.

In relation to opportunity, the research discovered 49 per cent of government school educators believe students are missing out on educational opportunities either very often or often because of their parent's financial situation. Overall, 38 per cent of teachers feel this way.

The report also found 47 per cent of government school educators believe the level of infrastructure at their school is either inadequate or non-existent, compared to 24 per cent of private school teachers and 21 per cent of faith based faith based school educators.

ASG CEO John Velegrinis says the report comprehensively measured teachers' opinions on a range of topics.

"The survey gives teachers a voice on testing, curriculum, stress, wellbeing, support, engagement, satisfaction, technology and opportunity.

"Teachers play a valuable and inspirational role in the development of our young people and it's essential their views are heard and discussed. The worst thing we can do is

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.*

ignore the opinions of our teachers who are playing a critical role in shaping the future of Australia," said Mr Velegrinis.

The Australian College of Educators is a professional association that represents teachers across all sectors and systems. CEO Helen Jentz says educators must be provided with the resources they need to shine.

"It's clear many teachers face and overcome a range of challenges on a daily basis.

"It's heartening the vast majority of teachers feel satisfied and are proud of what they do, but more needs to be done. We all have a role to play to ensure investment, infrastructure and technology opportunities at schools are improved, student and parent engagement levels rise and the standing of the teaching profession is 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