

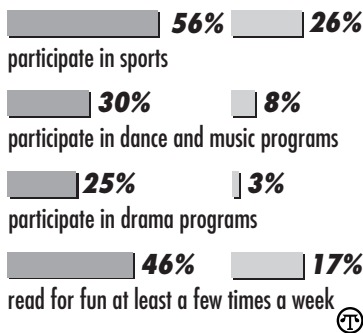
Students Need More From School, Home, Community

(NAPSA)—Increasingly, America’s educational system has learned to take direction from within—namely, from the students whose school lives are shaped by the teachers, administrators and curricula in place today.

One way that students’ voices are being heard is through an annual survey that explores the factors and forces at work in students’ lives that encourage or inhibit their success in and out of school. Key findings of *The MetLife Survey of the American Teacher, 2002: Student Life—School, Home and Community* include:

- 29 percent of teachers believe that their school is preparing students “extremely well” to go to college; only 15 percent of students agree.
- Only 18 percent of students believe that teachers respect all students; just 24 percent believe that teachers are interested in what’s best for all students.
- 56 percent of “A” students report exercising four or more days a week, compared to 45 percent of “D” and “F” students.
- 54 percent of students wish for more time with their parents.
- “D” and “F” students are twice as likely to never eat breakfast as “A” students and are more likely to get less than seven hours of sleep on a school night (43 percent vs. 33 percent).
- “D” and “F” students are less likely than “A” students to partici-

Students who get A’s in school are more likely than students who get D’s and F’s to...



pate in sports, dance, music, schoolwork programs and drama programs, or to read for fun.

“Differences in opinion provide clues on what we can do to improve education,” said Sibyl Jacobson, president and CEO of MetLife Foundation. “Students of all ages want adults to respect them and be involved in their lives, they want activities that are interesting and relevant and they need support to help them succeed.”

Student Life—School, Home and Community is the 19th in a series of teacher surveys sponsored annually by MetLife. The surveys are designed to bring the voices of teachers and students to the attention of policymakers and the American public. For more information, or to download a full copy of the survey, visit the Web site at www.metlife.com.