



# Junior Achievement<sup>®</sup>

## After-School Programs Find A Home In Schools

(NAPSA)—In many communities, the end of the school day doesn't mean that students are no longer learning or that schools are standing idle.

A new survey shows that nearly two-thirds (just over 62 percent) of students who participate in after-school programs take part in activities held at their schools, in a location such as a gym or cafeteria—and not in after-school centers.

By comparison, fewer than one in 10—just under 9 percent—participate in more traditional after-school settings, such as at a YMCA, Boys & Girls Club or similar facility. About one in five (18 percent) participate in a church or place of worship.

“These results illustrate the growing role of schools in the communities they serve, during normal school hours and beyond,” said Dr. Darrell Luzzo, Senior Vice President of Education for JA Worldwide. “I think it is also indicative of the rising demand for after-school programs. There simply aren't enough after-school facilities out there, so schools are filling that void. This presents both a challenge and an opportunity to help students academically by giving them unique and interesting content during those after-school hours.”

The survey was conducted by JA Worldwide (Junior Achievement) in conjunction with the introduction of the organization's



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after-school middle-school program, JA It's My Business!

This new program encompasses entrepreneurship curricula for students in grades six, seven and eight. The program emphasizes entrepreneurship while providing a strong focus on social studies, reading and writing skills.

After-school programs offered through JA are provided at minimal or no cost to schools, and can use on-site personnel or engage a volunteer from outside the school—who is often a businessperson or working professional—to come into the after-school setting to conduct the program.

JA Worldwide—also known as Junior Achievement—reaches approximately 4 million students in the United States, plus more than 3.5 million students worldwide.

To find out more, visit [www.ja.org](http://www.ja.org).