NATIONAL STUDENT SERVICE-LEARNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE SURVEY

FAST RESPONSE SURVEY SYSTEM

Community service. For the purposes of this survey, student community service is defined as community service activities that are non-curriculum-based and are recognized by and/or arranged through the school. The community service:

- May be mandatory or voluntary;
- Generally does not include explicit learning objectives or organized reflection or critical analysis activities; and
- May include activities that take place off of school grounds or may happen primarily within the school.

Community service activities may be carried out as school-wide events, separately organized school programs, or projects conducted by school-sponsored clubs (e.g., Girls/Boys Clubs, National Honor Society). Examples of service activities could include cleaning up a local park, visiting the elderly, or collecting and distributing food to those in need.

Service-learning. For the purposes of this survey, service-learning is defined as curriculum-based community service that integrates classroom instruction with community service activities. The service must:

- Be organized in relation to an academic course or curriculum;
- Have clearly stated learning objectives;
- Address real community needs in a sustained manner over a period of time; and
- Assist students in drawing lessons from the service through regularly scheduled, organized reflection or critical analysis activities, such as classroom discussions, presentations, or directed writing.

Example of service-learning: Students in a middle school science class studying the environment help preserve the natural habitat of animals living at a local lake. Through classroom studies, the students learn about the environment. The students keep the area around the lake clean, post signs providing information to the public, and study soil and water composition as well as the impact of industrial development on wildlife. Throughout the project, students write about their experiences in journals and participate in class discussions about the project and its effect on their lives and the local community.

LABEL

IF ABOVE INFORMATION IS INCORRECT, PLEASE MAKE CORRECTIONS DIRECTLY ON LABEL.

Name of person completing form:_____   Telephone: _____

Title/position:_____   Number of years at this school: _____

Best days and times to reach you (in case of questions): _____

E-mail:_____

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:	IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT:
WESTAT 1650 Research Boulevard Rockville, Maryland 20850 Attention: 716605-Skinner	Becky Skinner 800-937-8281, ext. 2279 Fax: 1-800-254-0984 E-mail: RAKB1@westat.com

I. Policies and Support for Community Service

For the purposes of this survey, student community service is defined as community service activities that are non-curriculum-based and are recognized by and/or arranged through the school. The community service:

- *May be mandatory or voluntary;*
- *Generally does not include explicit learning objectives or organized reflection or critical analysis activities; and*
- *May include activities that take place off of school grounds or may happen primarily within the school.*

Community service activities may be carried out as school-wide events, separately organized school programs, or projects conducted by school-sponsored clubs (e.g., Girls/Boys Clubs, National Honor Society). Examples of service activities could include cleaning up a local park, visiting the elderly, or collecting and distributing food to those in need.

1. Do your students participate in community service activities that fit the definition given above?

   Yes 1   No.......... 2 *(If no, skip to question 6.)*

2. During this academic year, what percentage of the students in your school are or will be involved in community service, that is, involvement in organized volunteer service activities through the school? _____ %

3. Does your school require students to participate in community service?   Yes........ 1   No 2

4. Does your school arrange community service opportunities for students?   Yes........ 1   No 2

5. What are your school's three most important reasons for encouraging student involvement in community service? *(Circle only the three most important reasons.)*

a. To increase student knowledge and understanding of the community	1
b. To help students become more active members of the community	2
c. To encourage student altruism or caring for others	3
d. To improve student achievement in core academic courses	4
e. To teach critical thinking and problem-solving skills	5
f. To improve student participation in and attitudes toward school	6
g. To increase career awareness and exposure among students	7
h. To improve student personal or social development	8
i. To reduce student involvement in risk behaviors (e.g., drug or alcohol use)	9
j. To meet real community needs and/or foster relationships between the school and surrounding community	10
k. Other *(specify)* _____	11

II. Policies and Support for Service-Learning

For the purposes of this survey, service-learning is defined as curriculum-based community service that integrates classroom instruction with community service activities. The service must:

- *Be organized in relation to an academic course or curriculum;*
- *Have clearly stated learning objectives;*
- *Address real community needs in a sustained manner over a period of time; and*
- *Assist students in drawing lessons from the service through regularly scheduled, organized reflection or critical analysis activities, such as classroom discussions, presentations, or directed writing.*

Example of service-learning: Students in a middle school science class studying the environment help preserve the natural habitat of animals living at a local lake. Through classroom studies, the students learn about the environment. The students keep the area around the lake clean, post signs providing information to the public, and study soil and water composition as well as the impact of industrial development on wildlife. Throughout the project, students write about their experiences in journals and participate in class discussions about the project and its effect on their lives and the local community.

6. Does your school have service-learning that fits the definition given above?   Yes 1   No.......... 2

7. Does your school district have a formal policy encouraging the integration of service-learning into the course curriculum in public schools?   Yes........ 1   No 2   Don't know.... 3

8. Does your school receive assistance from a Service-Learning Coordinator or other staff person provided by the school district who supports schools and teachers interested in integrating service-learning into their schools or course curriculum?   Yes 1   No 2   Don't know.... 3

9. During this academic year, what percentage of the students in your school are or will be involved in service-learning, that is, service as part of a formal course or classroom activity?

   _____ % *(If none, enter 0 and skip to question 20.)*

10. Are students participating in or expected to participate in the following types of service-learning during the 1998/1999 academic year? If yes, please indicate whether student participation is mandatory and/or voluntary.

	Yes mandatory	Yes voluntary	No
a. School-wide service-learning (all students participating in service-learning through academic coursework)..	1	2	3
b. Grade-wide service-learning (students in one or more grades participating in a service-learning project or program through academic coursework).........................	1	2	3
c. Discipline-wide service-learning (service-learning integrated into an entire subject area, such as history or English, through academic coursework)	1	2	3
d. Service-learning in individual academic courses that are not part of a broader grade or school-wide initiative	1	2	3
e. Service-learning as a separate elective or advisory period	1	2	3
f. Service-learning as part of a dropout prevention course or program	1	2	3
g. Service-learning as part of a special education program...	1	2	3
h. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2	3

11. In which curriculum areas is service-learning taking place? *(Circle yes or no for each item.)*

	Yes	No
a. English/language arts	1	2
b. Social sciences or social studies (e.g., history, civics, economics)	1	2
c. Mathematics	1	2
d. Computer sciences	1	2
e. Physical and biological sciences...	1	2
f. Foreign languages	1	2
g. ESL, ESOL, bilingual education...	1	2
h. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2

12. What percentage of the teachers in your school use service-learning as part of their instruction? _____ %

13. Does your school have a formal policy encouraging teachers to integrate service-learning into their course curriculum?

    Yes 1   No.......... 2

14. Does your school provide any of the following support to teachers interested in integrating service-learning into their course curriculum? *(Circle yes or no for each item.)*

	Yes	No
a. Full-time Service-Learning Coordinator	1	2
b. Part-time Service-Learning Coordinator	1	2
c. Support for attending service-learning training or conferences outside of the school	1	2
d. Mini-grants for service-learning program or curriculum development..	1	2
e. Financial support for costs associated with service-learning projects or programs..............................	1	2
f. Reduction in course load to allow time for service-learning program development or supervision	1	2
g. Extra planning time for service-learning activities..	1	2
h. Special recognition or awards for teachers using service-learning in their courses	1	2
i. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2

15. Since the 1995/1996 school year, has your school or school district provided any inservice training on service-learning for your teachers?   Yes 1   No .... 2 *(If no, skip to question 17a.)*

16. What percentage of your teachers have received inservice training for service-learning since the 1995/1996 school year? _____ % *(If none, enter 0.)*

17a. Does your school have service-learning requirements for any of your students?

    Yes, for all students .... 1 ⎤
    Yes, for some students.. 2 ⎦ *Skip to question 17c.*
    No 3

17b. If your school does not have a service-learning requirement for students, is your school planning on establishing a requirement during the next school year?

    Yes .... 1 *(If yes, skip to question 18.)*   No .... 2 *(If no, skip to question 18.)*

17c. If your school has a service-learning requirement for students, what type(s) of service-learning requirement(s) does your school have?

    a. Specific number of courses that incorporate service-learning: _____ Number of courses required
    b. Specific number of hours of service outside the classroom: _____ Number of hours of service required
    c. Some other requirement *(specify)*? _____

18. What are your school's three most important reasons for encouraging student involvement in service-learning? *(Circle only the three most important reasons.)*

a. To increase student knowledge and understanding of the community 1
b. To help students become more active members of the community 2
c. To encourage student altruism or caring for others 3
d. To improve student achievement in core academic courses 4
e. To teach critical thinking and problem-solving skills 5
f. To improve student participation in and attitudes toward school 6
g. To increase career awareness and exposure among students 7
h. To improve student personal or social development 8
i. To reduce student involvement in risk behaviors (e.g., drug or alcohol use) 9
j. To meet real community needs and/or foster relationships between the school and surrounding community 10

19. Does your school encourage student participation in the following organizational and evaluative activities for service-learning projects? *(Circle yes or no for each item.)*

	Yes	No
a. Performing needs assessments to identify possible service-learning projects	1	2
b. Deciding which service-learning projects will be done	1	2
c. Determining student staffing for service-learning projects	1	2
d. Assisting in allocating funds to service-learning projects	1	2
e. Evaluating completed service-learning projects or service-learning projects in progress	1	2
f. Serving on a service-learning program advisory board	1	2
g. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2

III. Other Support for Service-Learning and/or Community Service

20. Has your school received any special grants or other special funding to support service-learning and/or community service activities in your school during this academic year?   Yes........ 1   No .... 2 *(If no, skip to question 22.)*

21. Please indicate whether your school received funding to support service-learning and/or community service activities from each of the following sources. *(Circle one response for each item.)*

Source of funding	Yes	No	Don't know
a. Learn and Serve America	1	2	3
b. AmeriCorps	1	2	3
c. Other federal/state grants	1	2	3
d. Foundation grants	1	2	3
e. Corporate/business grants or contributions	1	2	3
f. Other grants or contributions *(specify)* _____	1	2	3

22. Are members or volunteers from any of the following programs working with your students during this academic year? *(Circle one response for each item.)*

	Yes	No	Don't know
a. AmeriCorps	1	2	3
b. AmeriCorps/VISTA	1	2	3
c. AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps	1	2	3
d. America Reads	1	2	3
e. Learn and Serve America K-12 Program	1	2	3
f. Learn and Serve America Higher Education Program	1	2	3
g. Learn and Service America Community-Based Program	1	2	3
h. College Work Study (CWS)	1	2	3
i. Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	1	2	3
j. Foster Grandparents	1	2	3
k. Other *(specify)* _____	1	2	3

IV. Background Questions about School

23. For what grade levels does this school offer instruction?   From _____ (lowest grade) to _____ (highest grade)

24. How many full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers are employed at your school?   _____ FTE teachers

25. What percentage of the students in your school are eligible for the federal aid program for free or reduced-price lunches? _____ %

THANK YOU!