

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Survey: Parents of Older Students Unaware of One-on-One Tutoring Benefits Available through the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

-- 77 percent believe their children would spend more time on schoolwork given online tutoring anytime/anywhere --

-- Many indicate a desire to use the Internet for a better home-to-school connection --

BLAIRSVILLE, Pa., August 29 – A new survey shows that 78 percent of parents surveyed are unaware that students in failing schools are eligible for free tutoring through the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The survey, commissioned by Apangea Learning through Zoomerang MarketTools, asked 309 parents of students ages 11-17 (grades 5 through 11) their opinions about NCLB and available tutoring options. The survey showed that 77 percent believe that their children would spend more time on schoolwork if they had access to computerized tutoring plus unscheduled live tutor availability anytime. 98 percent were unaware that schools can utilize exactly that format, oftentimes through NCLB funding. Lack of awareness of NCLB benefits may correlate to the overall lack of enthusiasm about NCLB, with 72 percent unsure or unenthusiastic about the NCLB impact on their students. As schools begin to adopt solutions that engage students and parents while better leveraging NCLB funding, this enthusiasm level could shift to a more positive one.

When asked about one-on-one tutoring options, only 17 percent felt that scheduled tutor time at a learning center or during scheduled Internet sessions would be a viable option for their child's schedule. However, when linked to the school's afterschool program or when delivered over the Internet for use anytime/anywhere, parents were much more enthusiastic, with 83 percent selecting these options.

Current statistics from the U.S. Dept. of Education show that only 17 percent of students eligible for free NCLB tutoring actually receive it.

"Many parents applaud the accountability brought about by NCLB, but they still remain confused about what is available to them. Parents are concerned about their children's education and they want to be a part of the solution, they just need it to be easier to be involved," Louis Piconi, Apangea Learning CEO, said. "Schools have found with SmartHelp that their students are excited to use a program that works both at schools and at home, and the cost and scheduling barriers that many families face with their tutoring decisions are simply eliminated. Every family is unique, so the tutoring solution a school offers must be flexible."

SmartHelp is the only system with an artificial intelligence engine providing support to students until the moment they are in need of a live tutor - at which point SmartHelp makes available a live certified teacher over the Internet. The system can be used anytime; live tutors are available 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday. The SmartHelp model has been proven in schools across the country, with more than 17,000 students using it and with implementations in major cities like Chicago, Miami, New York City and Philadelphia.

About Apangea Learning

Apangea Learning is setting a new standard in the way students learn, enabling students to dramatically improve achievement, at the most cost-effective price. Apangea Learning provides differentiated instruction for every student via a unique integration of artificial intelligence and live one-on-one human tutors. Apangea Learning's solutions, including its groundbreaking SmartHelp, are based on one of the world's largest bodies of cognitive research and utilize innovative Web-based technology that engages students and teaches fundamental problem-solving skills. Visit Apangea Learning on the Web at <http://www.apangealearning.com>.