

THERE'S **No Homework** In Finland



Finland's school system accomplishes some impressive feats:

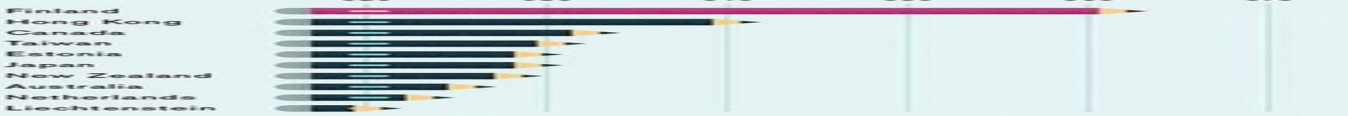
THEIR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE IS AT 93%. COMPARED TO 78% IN CANADA, AND 75% IN THE US.



ABOUT 2 IN 3 STUDENTS IN FINLAND WILL GO ON TO COLLEGE. That's the highest rate in all of Europe.

AND THEIR TEST SCORES DOMINATE EVERYONE ELSE.

Mean scores for PISA test (Program for International Student Assessment) 2006.



So what makes Finnish students so successful?

STUDENTS GET PLENTY OF TEACHER INTERACTION.

Finland and New York City have the same number of teachers. But Finland has nearly half the number of students.

FINLAND

Students: 600,000
Student to teacher ratio: 1 TO 12



NYC

Students: ALMOST 1.1 MILLION
Student to teacher ratio: 1 TO 24



THOUGH 1 IN 3 FINNISH STUDENTS RECEIVES SOME SORT OF SPECIAL HELP IN SCHOOL... There are no separate classrooms for accelerated learning or special education.

STANDARDIZED TESTING IS KEPT TO A MINIMUM.

BEFORE A NEW YORK STUDENT REACHES HIGH SCHOOL, HE OR SHE WILL HAVE TAKEN 10 STANDARDIZED TESTS.



Collectively, US students take 100 million standardized tests a year.

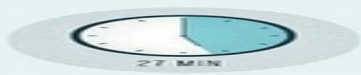
FINLAND'S ONLY STANDARDIZED TEST IS TAKEN WHEN STUDENTS ARE 16 YEARS OLD.

KIDS HAVE MORE TIME TO BE KIDS.

AN AVERAGE US 5TH GRADER HAS 50 MIN. OF HOMEWORK PER DAY.



Finnish students rarely do homework until their teens.



And while US elementary students average 27 minutes of recess... ... STUDENTS IN FINLAND GET ABOUT 75 MINUTES A DAY.

Most importantly? Finland knows good teachers are essential.

TEACHERS IN FINLAND ARE ALL REQUIRED TO HAVE A MASTER'S DEGREE.

(Which is fully subsidized by the state.) ONLY THE TOP 10% OF GRADUATES ARE ACCEPTED INTO TEACHING PROGRAMS.



AND FINLAND'S TEACHERS ARE AS ESTEEMED AS THEIR DOCTORS OR LAWYERS.

The rest of the world could learn a lot from you, Finland.

