President Toomas Hendrik Ilves delivered a lesson yesterday to the students of grades 10, 11 and 12 of Haljala Gymnasium, where he spoke about teachers who influenced him the most.

Haljala School has 360 students and 40 teachers and is the oldest school in Virumaa.

"Everyone – who strives to succeed and manage with his/her life – must learn and age does not matter here," said the Head of State, adding, "and by teaching others within the "Back to School" initiative, an individual, who has adopted the role of teacher, learns something worthwhile."

"Back to School" is an initiative of the President of the Republic and Foundation Noored Kooli (Young People to School) and is intended to strengthen the links between schools and Estonian society. In February, 687 people gave lessons within the first initiative of the "Back to School" programme.

When answering the questions of journalists concerning yesterday's local government elections, President Ilves acknowledged the high turnout.

"I'm glad that so many people – a record number – yesterday used the wonderful opportunity offered by democracy to make their choice and cast a vote," said the Head of State. "I thank everyone for helping to shape the next four years in the future of their home rural municipality or home town."

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