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**Pandas PyCitySchool Observations**

1. Charter Schools product significantly better results than District Schools
   1. All of the Charter Schools have a smaller school size (students), however we didn’t have information to evaluate teacher: student ratio to determine why the smaller population produced better results.
   2. Overall reading scores did not have as large of a difference than overall math scores; however, there was a significant difference between the percentage of students passing in Charter Schools vs. District Schools in both math and reading.
   3. There wasn’t that much of a change in students reading and math scores from 9th grade to 12th grade; so, Seniors weren’t necessarily performing better then when they were a Freshman. In fact, Some schools actually saw a decline in test scores from 9th grade to 12th.
2. The amount spent per student is NOT a good indicator of whether a school would have a good Overall Passing Rate.
   1. There was a significant difference between the lowest performing Charter School and the best performing District School – more than 20 percentage points!
   2. Where it would be interesting to have a student: teacher ratio to evaluate, I think it would also be very interesting to evaluate the number of students that qualify for Free-Lunches, Reduced-Lunches, and no subsidy at all. This isn’t an indication of the student’s ability, but potentially of the support system they have outside of the school.
   3. It would also be interesting to have evaluated the cost per student to the staff expenses rather than the overall school’s budget. A school with a population of almost 5,000 students would probably have significantly more expenses related to building expenses vs. teaching resources. For example, I wouldn’t be surprised if a Charter School’ building expenses (P&I, utilities, non-teaching staff, maintenance, etc.) is significantly lower than a District School.

