**PyPoll Analysis**

1. The largest factor contributing to students’ academic performance seems to be whether they attended a charter school or public school. Less than ¾ of district students passed their grade whereby fully 95% charter students succeeded. Several factors could account for this difference:
2. Those attending charter schools were brighter or more motivated to begin with. Less academically talented kids (or their parents) may be less likely to choose the “charter” option.
3. The teachers are of higher caliber and nourish the students’ academic performance.
4. The teacher/student ratio may be lower thereby allowing teachers to spend more time helping those who are not flourishing academically.
5. Students attending large public schools performed poorly in relation to their small and medium school counterparts. This was especially pronounced in mathematics where only 70% of those attending schools of 5000+ students passed math as opposed to 93.5%. One would be remiss though, in stating that the size of a school definitely matters. Many more of these small school are charter vs. public, thereby somewhat confounding a conclusion.
6. Somewhat bizarrely there seems to be a negative correlation between average spending per student and academic success rate. In order to draw a conclusion from this we would need to break down the spending. Perhaps expenses are higher in inner city public schools which historically perform poorly.
7. These statistics comprise only one school district. Therefore we would need to analyze more data to make recommendations. But it is definitely worth doing more research to see if decentralizing the public school system (building more smaller, charter schools) would be worthwhile.