PyCity Schools Written Report

Reviewing the data for PyCity schools student performance in reading and math showed that the factor that is most associated with passing scores is school type. The top five performing schools all have over 90% of students passing both math and reading, and they are all charter schools. The bottom five performing schools, with just over half of all students passing both math and reading are district schools. These results are consistent throughout all 15 schools with charter schools averaging over 90% of students passing both subjects, significantly outperforming district schools with only 54% of students passing both subjects.

Per student budgets do not have a large variance between schools, and the higher budgets have not resulted in higher performance. This may indicate that further increases in budgets may not effectively improve performance, and other changes may be more advantageous.

School size does correlate with performance. Large schools had much lower overall passing grades, while small and medium schools performed similarly to each other and much better than large schools. It should be noted that the large schools are all district schools, while the small and medium-sized schools are all charter schools.

In order to improve the performance at district schools, a closer look at how the charter schools operate would be recommended. In addition to school size, other factors, such as student/teacher ratios, and curriculum should be investigated. The overwhelming conclusion is that charter schools are significantly outperforming district schools and a closer look at the differences between these types of schools should be the first step in seeking to improve the performance across all schools.