Py City Schools

In an analysis of Py city schools there are two general trends. School spending per pupil does not guarantee better schools but size may be a play a role. There was an inverse relation of spending per pupil to academic achievement. The top five performing schools spent the least per student. The top five schools were also the smallest schools. The largest top performing school has 2,283 students while the smallest poor performing school has 2,739 students.

Overall the difference in performance was between Charter and District schools. The top 8 performing schools were Charters and the bottom 7 performers were District schools. The Charter schools were smaller and spent less per pupil than the large district schools. Overall the passing rate for Charter schools was 94% versus 74% for the District schools.

Evaluating schools based on the passing rates overstates the difference between the two types of schools. On closer inspection the reading scores are 81 and 84 for Charter and District schools respectively. The passing rates are 80 and 96 percent so the passing score must be only one or two points different between the two types of schools. In math the average scores are 77 and 83 respectively but the percentage passing for District schools is 66 and for Charter schools is 93 percent. That makes the Charters look wildly more successful than the difference in actual scores would indicate.

It is important to pass to be able to graduate but the actual difference in scores is not terribly different especially when it comes to reading. It’s possible that Charter schools are better at teaching to the test to ensure students pass. Whatever the difference in methods, Charter schools are math and reading scores are not that much better than District schools.

Fun Facts:

* There was no evidence of senior sluggishness
* 10th graders love reading

In 80% of the schools 10th graders were the best readers by 1% or more