

State Education Finance Study Commission

Foundational Formula Subcommittee
(#1)

August 7, 2012

Review of School Spending

- In the TF (#1) meeting of June 28, 2012, we looked at adjusted spending of Elementary and Middle Schools; grouped by LEA.
 - In this earlier **group** analysis, it appeared that adjusted \$/FTE spending **did** seem to have an impact on scholastic performance (as measured by CRCT results).

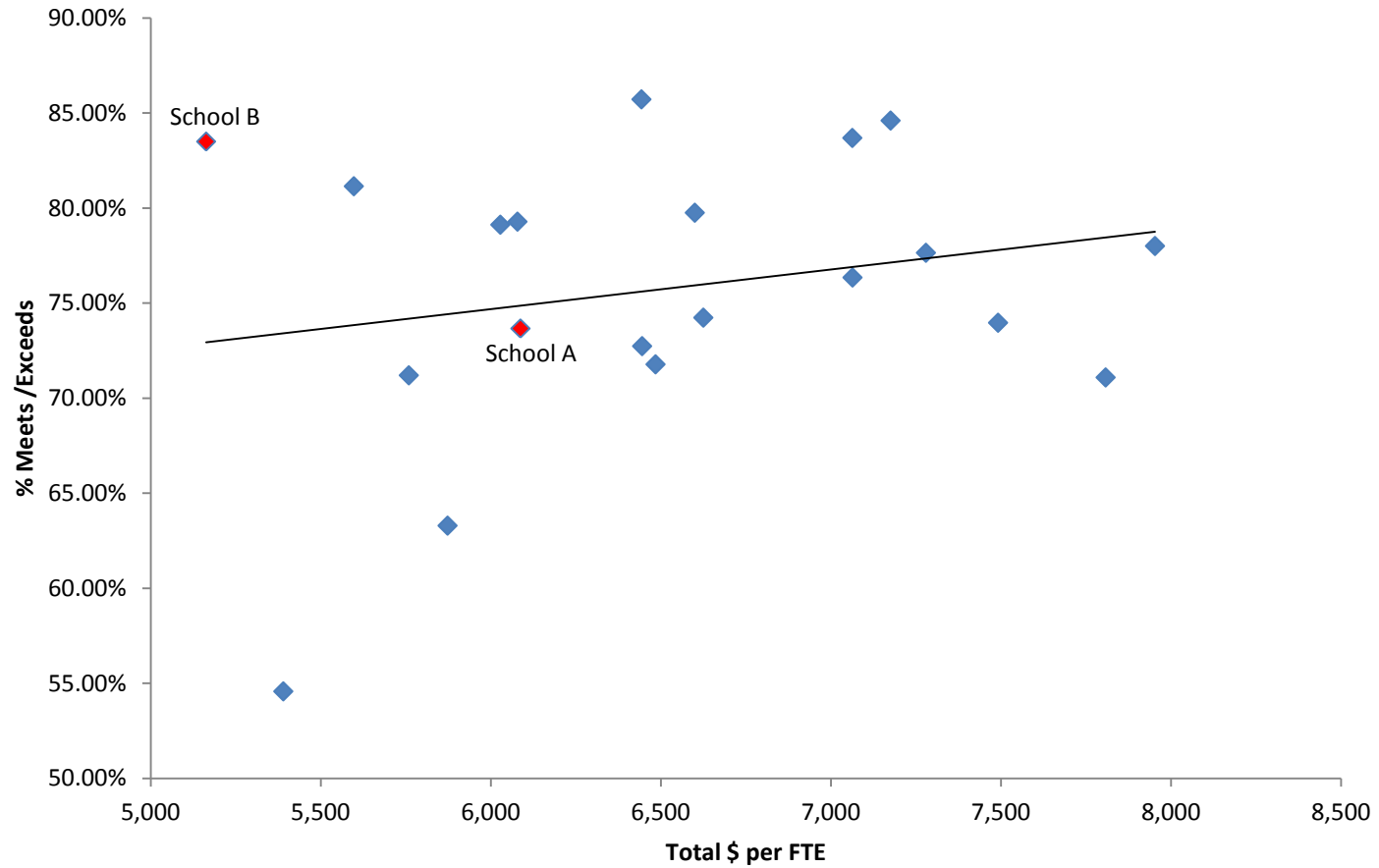
Review of School Spending

- In today's presentation we will analyze specific Schools, NOT grouped by LEA.
 - A sample was selected with the same free and reduced lunch percentages (75 – 85%).
 - No adjustment for program weightings was applied to this group.
 - Schools were selected with similar enrollment numbers

Middle Schools

75% - 85% Free & Reduced

750 to 1250 Students



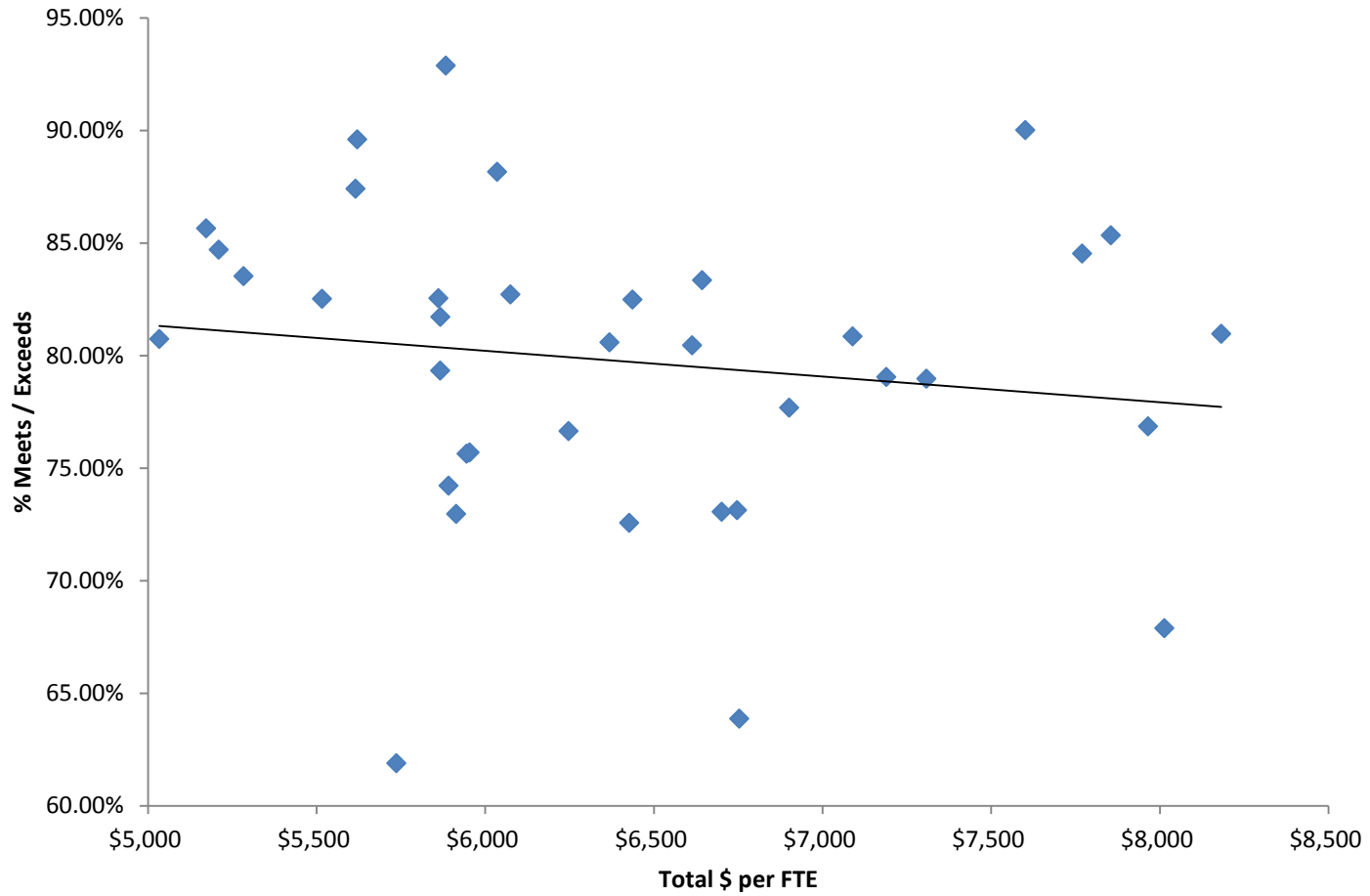
Specific Middle Schools' Spending versus CRCT results

- The Middle school total spending line suggests a slightly positive, but **not** meaningful, relationship between spending at the school level and CRCT results.

Elementary Schools

75% - 85% Free & Reduced

550 to 650 Students



Specific Elementary Schools' Spending versus CRCT results

- The Elementary school total spending line suggests a slightly negative, but **not** meaningful, relationship between spending at the school level and CRCT results.

Specific Schools' Spending versus CRCT results

- The analysis suggests that at the SPECIFIC SCHOOL level (for the selected group), spending was not a meaningful indicator of CRCT performance.
- This was different from spending at the LEA GROUP of schools level, where spending did seem to impact performance.

Suggested Implications of Spending Analysis

- The reviewed LEA's are probably making good relative decisions about which schools to fund
 - Policy implication: LEA's should decide which schools to fund (LEA rather than site level expenditure controls).

Suggested Implications of Spending Analysis

- School building leadership and Climate are more important factors than spending in student achievement
 - Policy implication: building effectiveness should be measured and used in building leader evaluations (LEM).

Suggested Implications of Spending Analysis

- While poverty (F&R) has a negative impact on performance, money itself does not solve the problem; improvement requires leadership.
 - Policy implication: focus on building specific School Improvement strategies with targeted performance metrics and reporting.

Misc. Slides

(for discussion purposes)

Misc., Two Schools in Same LEA

	<u>School A</u>	<u>School B</u>
FTEs	823	1,094
F & R	82.0%	83.1%
% Meets/Exceeds	73.7%	83.5%

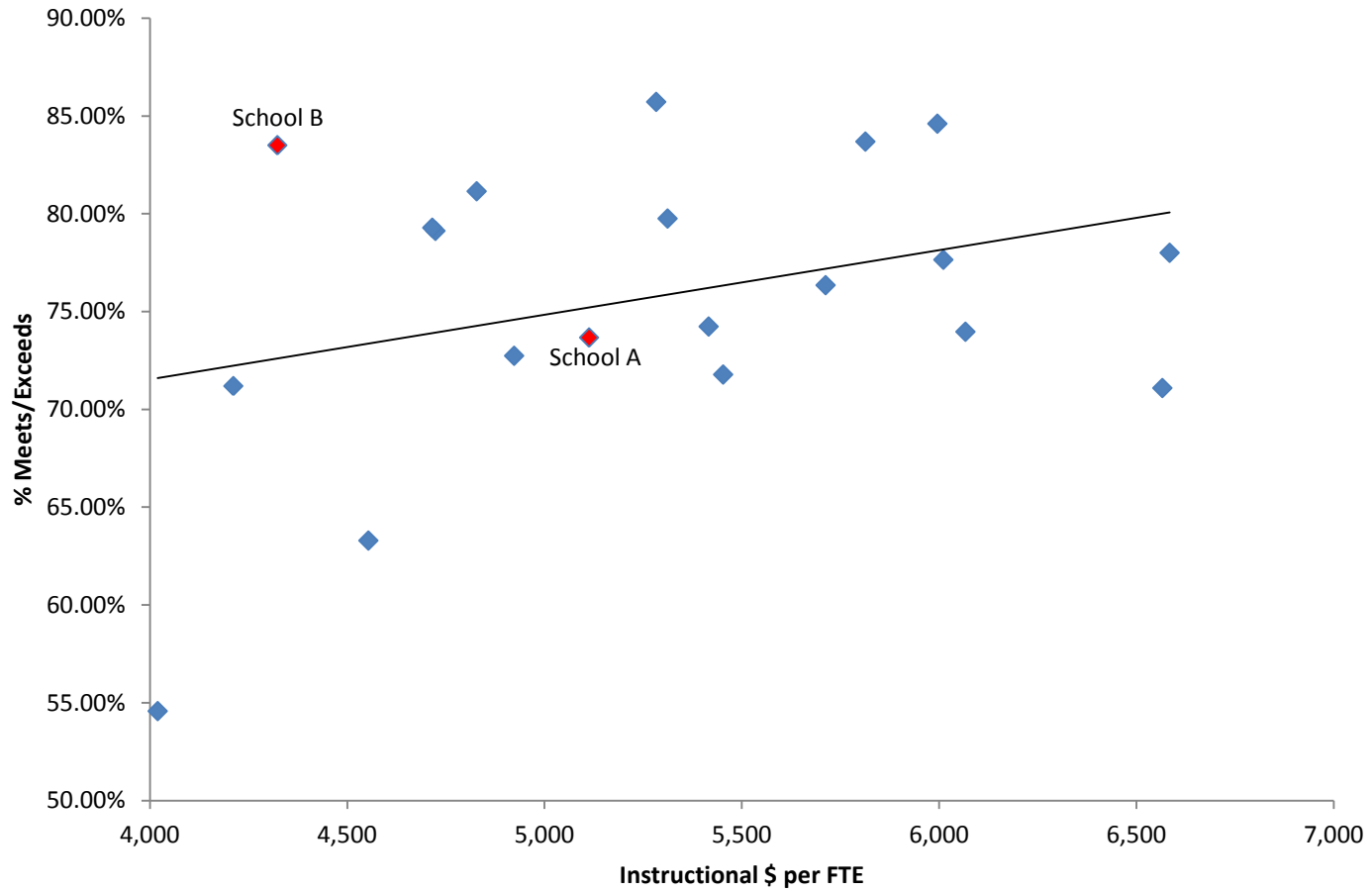
Demographics

Special Ed	11.4%	9.0%
ESOL	1.5%	3.8%
Administrators	3	3
Administrators Average Years of Experience	13.7	16.3
Teachers	52	66
Teachers Average Years of Experience	11.0	9.1
Teachers/Administrator	18:1	22:1
Students/Teacher	16:1	16:1
Instruction \$/FTE	\$5,113	\$4,323
Total \$/FTE	\$6,087	\$5,163

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