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The productivity challenge for states

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Current conditions

- ⇒ Over next decade, costs will likely escalate faster than revenue.
- ⇒ We haven't yet asked this system to work on getting the most bang for the buck. The result: Poor relationship between spending and outcomes.
- ⇒ Some schools are already more "productive" than others. (And two schools can spend the same money in the same way and get different results.)
- ⇒ Some productivity improvements can come from using labor differently (if schools are bought into the redesign).
- ⇒ Need a funding formula that promotes productivity

Built-in cost escalators outpace revenues for K12



What will happen to staff in coming years?



Based on author's calculations from BLS, NEA and NCES data, 2012.

Structural deficit: benefits consume an increasing share of expenditures

 ⇒ In PA, school staffing benefits load on salaries grew from
30 % in 2004 to
37 % in 2008*



*CCD data Graphic based on author calculations.

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Districts within states vary on spending, outcomes and ROI Pennsylvania

Identify high-achieving, low-spending school districts



Data from the ROI project at the Center for American Progress

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Spending per non-core course is higher than for a core course



For information on this analysis, please contact Marguerite Roza, MR1170@georgetown.edu

Inside high schools, spending patterns reinforce



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Financial models show staffing innovations that expand "reach" have productivity implications.

E.g. High performing teachers could earn sizable bonuses for taking on 3 more students, by reallocating the savings.

Existing class size

Current average teacher salary

Bonus per teacher per additional student

Bonus per teacher for taking 3 additional students



Analysis by Suzanne Simburg on Cypress-Fairbanks district in TX.

What do teachers prefer?

\$5K bonus or		2 fewer students in each class you teach	
83%			
\$5K bonus	or	1/5 of an aide	
85%			
\$5K bonus	or	3.5 hours more prep	
69%		time per week	

Key Opportunities for states

- 1. Allocate funds based on students
- 2. Leverage local money into the student based formula to ensure adequacy and equity.
- 3. Prioritize funding flexibility so that districts and schools are free to pursue productivity improvements
- 4. Build information systems that districts and schools can use to fuel productivity gains

1. Allocate funds based on students

Structure state allocations to follow students, not processes, or purchased inputs.

- Allocate a fixed amount of funds per student type with greater amounts for higher student needs.
- Eliminate targeted funds for salaries, class sizes, programs, reimbursements, etc.

Discontinue allocations that hinge on previous years' spending levels.

 Grandfathering, etc. inhibits districts from being nimble and adapting to changing conditions.

What share of state/local allocations follows students?

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California	77%
Delaware	1%
Idaho	2%
Minnesota	77%
New Jersey	85%
New York	72%
Pennsylvania	0%

2. Leverage local money into student formula to ensure adequacy and equity

Local money tends to grow faster, but is less equitable

Create an equalization fund so that equal local effort yields equal revenues per pupil.

Count some base effort toward student based formula with state funds layering on top to reach target pupil based amount

3. Prioritize Funding Flexibility

Eliminate targeted funds for salaries, class sizes, programs, reimbursements, etc.

- Remove state regulations that inhibit resource decisions, such as staffing requirements, schedule prescriptions, etc.
 - Where not possible, institute a waiver mechanism

4. Information Systems: The Productivity Opportunity

Integrate student outcomes <u>and spending</u>, by district and by *school*. Enable search-ability and filtering for comparisons among like schools.

Use the system to make sure productivity becomes part of everyone's conversation on school improvement:

Benchmarking- Schools/communities measuring their progress relative to peers.

Discovery- leaders searching for better practices amidst cost constraints. Management- District leaders managing their schools, and allocating funds sustainably. Principals in questioning district spending choices on their behalf

□ Focus attention throughout the system on productivity through training or awards.



Generate information to guide leaders to focus on productivity.

Compare Spending:



O selected schools (4)

1,806 3,796 2,701 280	High ROI schools are in systems that spend 43% less on central services.
0 130 0 0 17 159 52 0 0 88 290 412	Higher ROI schools spend 200% more on software.
0 0 8,115	Higher ROI schools spend 32% less on plant maintenance
5,692 0 834 26 925 190	

Central services	3,201
Instruction (11,95) *	3,171
cert salaries	2,812
benefits	307
services/contracts	0
Instructional /curric, staff dev	47
software	6
salaries	97
benefits	26
services	5
School Leadership	572
Guidance/Counseling Svcs	140
Social Work Services	0
Health Services	76
Food	107
Cocurricular	50
Plant Maint/Operation	
Security/Monitoring	9
Data Processing Svcs	
	8,054
Regular	4,703
Gifted & Talented	0
Career & Technical	0
Students with Disabilities	
Accelerated Education	
Bilingual	152
Athletic Programming	29

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