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STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

FLORIDA'S RACE TO THE TOP
STUDENT GROWTH IMPLEMENTATION
COMMITTEE MEETING

University of Central Florida
Teaching Academy Building
Orlando, Florida

Thursday, May 19, 2011

Volume 2

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

KATHY HEBDA, Deputy Chancellor for Educator Quality
JUAN COPA, Director, Research & Analysis

AIR MEMBERS PRESENT:

JON COHEN, Ph.D., Executive Vice-President
HAROLD DORAN, Ed.D., AIR, Principal Research Scientist
CHRISTY HOVANETZ
MARY ANN LEMKE

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1 (Whereupon, this is an uninterrupted
2 continuation from Volume 1, to-wit:)
3 * * * * *
4 MR. FOERSTER: I'm hoping I can walk
5 through a couple of assumptions to make sure I
6 understand this right. The variance that you're
7 showing for school effect in the bar graph that
8 was up there before. I think the argument was
9 that there is significant variance and we should
10 contemplate what that means. Is that right?

11 DR. DORAN: That's exactly right, that
12 there are -- their schools seem to differ and it
13 has a consequence in the teacher effects and
14 whether or not you include school effects is
15 your consideration.

16 MR. FOERSTER: I want to talk through that
17 for a minute. So if all schools have the same
18 average teacher effect, that variance would be
19 zero; is that right?

20 DR. DORAN: If all schools have the same
21 average teacher effect, that variance would be
22 zero?

23 MR. FOERSTER: I mean, essentially by
24 showing that we have variance in the school
25 effect, are we not just saying that some schools

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1 -- that difference can be expressed in terms of
2 differences relative to a standard expected
3 student growth. We're comparing the bar to what
4 the expected growth would be statewide using the
5 aggression analysis and let's say a school
6 effect is minus 5 and we've got another school
7 that's plus 5. Well, when we go to recalculate
8 the teacher effect then, if I'm understanding
9 this right, we're moving the bar now. Instead
10 of calculating teacher effect relative to the
11 student level expectation that has been fine
12 statewide, we're doing it relative to the school
13 average.

14 DR. DORAN: That's exactly right. You're
15 doing relative to how that school deviates from
16 that line.

17 MR. FOERSTER: Right. So when we do that,
18 there are a couple of I think things that happen
19 consequentially that may or may not be
20 significant. One of them is the variance and
21 teacher effect get smaller. That makes sense
22 because you're comparing it to an average that
23 you've already calculated to be a function of
24 that school. So the teacher effect variance
25 decreases as a consequence of calculating it

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1 are better than other schools.

2 DR. DORAN: What we're saying here -- let
3 me answer your question this way. That what you
4 just said is right. The fact that we see
5 variability in the school effects means that
6 schools differ from each other.

7 MR. FOERSTER: In terms of average teacher
8 effect?

9 DR. DORAN: In terms of average school
10 effects, the kids --

11 MR. FOERSTER: Okay, average student
12 growth?

13 DR. DORAN: Yes, average student growth.

14 MR. FOERSTER: And there are differences
15 from school to school?

16 DR. DORAN: In terms of -- one way to
17 phrase it would be schools differ in terms of
18 their ability to impact student growth.

19 MR. FOERSTER: Okay, so that there is
20 variance indicates that schools vary from one
21 another; that's the conclusion?

22 DR. DORAN: That's right.

23 MR. FOERSTER: Okay. If we acknowledge
24 that our schools vary from one another, and that
25 variance can be -- I'm using the word "variance"

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1 relative to the school average doesn't to me
2 seem surprising or even really meaningful. I'm
3 making this argument --

4 DR. DORAN: You're right.

5 DR. COHEN: Your argument so forth is
6 exactly right.

7 MR. FOERSTER: Okay. So if that's the case
8 then you said something sort of in a drive-by
9 that made me go -- uh. You've had the school,
10 you've now taken the bar from something that's
11 calculated statewide to something that is very
12 specific to the school; that's our standard of
13 comparison. And by definition now, teacher
14 effects if we completely attribute school effect
15 to school and the residual then to the teacher,
16 half the teachers in that school will always
17 have a positive teacher effect and half the
18 teachers in that school will always have a
19 negative teacher effect.

20 DR. DORAN: Relative to the school average.

21 MR. FOERSTER: Wow. I mean, what that
22 means is you could have a school whose tide is
23 rising, right? You've got a principal that's
24 working like crazy, you've got teachers that are
25 on board, they're moving that average up, the

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1 school is performing better than it ever has;
2 but because we have completely apportioned
3 school effect and teacher effect, half the
4 teachers in that school by definition always
5 will have a negative effect.

6 DR. DORAN: Now, remember, you still have
7 to go under the classifications. Let's suppose
8 that there is a school or a group of schools who
9 are doing school effects particularly high. And
10 you're right, the teachers are going to be
11 centered around that school effect. Depending
12 on how you define your classification rules for
13 teachers, we're not necessarily saying that for
14 any school half of the teachers in that school
15 are going to have low value-added and half are
16 going to be bad. That's not what we're saying.
17 What we're saying is the teacher effects will be
18 centered on that school effect.

19 The classification rules that we have to
20 come up with later are what are used to set
21 where that bar is in order to say whether a
22 teacher is good or bad. So you could come up
23 with classification rules where there are some
24 teachers who are lower relative to the school
25 effect, but given your rules for classified

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1 itself.

2 MR. FOERSTER: Right.

3 MS. BROWN: So the final teacher score is
4 really the teacher's score, but we're saying
5 there's a portion of that that might need to be
6 attributed to the school because the way you
7 said it made almost sound like okay, we're no
8 longer using any standard. It's all based on
9 the school and everybody will be here or here
10 based on the school and that's not necessarily
11 true. There's still going to be your individual
12 teacher effect and a portion of the school is in
13 there.

14 DR. COHEN: You have it exactly right.
15 Part of the problem is the language that we're
16 using. Let's for a minute not talk about
17 effects. Let's say we have -- this bar
18 represents the common component of student
19 learning and this affects the unique teacher
20 component of student learning. If we estimate
21 them both together, we can say how much of that
22 common component is due to teachers and so we
23 can add it back in. If we would just take the
24 unique teacher component of student learning
25 then, Sam, you're exactly right; the average

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1 teachers may still have high value added. This
2 is a complicated process where we still have to
3 navigate.

4 MR. FOERSTER: But in so doing with the
5 classification rule, to borrow the term I think
6 you've used, you've un-spooled the school
7 effect, unwound it. I mean, you've gone right
8 back to, okay, well, then that teacher effect is
9 actually in terms of student growth accomplished
10 by this teacher would be this number and that's
11 what we want to look at.

12 MS. BROWN: But let me clarify because now
13 I'm getting a little confused and I want to make
14 sure I'm right. The final teacher effect is a
15 combination of the student residuals attached to
16 that teacher and whatever proportion of school
17 effect if we decided to include it come in
18 there. So it's not that the final teacher's
19 effect rests solely on the school effect, it's
20 that the school effect becomes a portion of that
21 teacher effect calculation because if we chose
22 to use the school effect we're saying there are
23 things within the school that attribute to that
24 student's learning. Therefore, a portion of
25 that student's growth is related to the school

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1 would be average in every school whether the
2 teachers in that school or average, above
3 average, or below; the average would be average.

4 So this common component should probably at
5 least partially or maybe fully attributed to the
6 teachers in the school to move them. So it's
7 kind of a sliding scale. You can take some or
8 all of the common component, plus all the
9 teacher component and use that to calculate your
10 teacher effect. Then when we think about it
11 that way, I think it becomes --

12 MS. BROWN: My teacher effect based on
13 students' growth that are attributed to me and a
14 little bit partially based on the overall scale
15 that also helped contribute to my --

16 DR. COHEN: Yeah, yeah, as a teacher me and
17 my colleagues are contributing to this common
18 component.

19 MR. LeTELLIER: You know, we've spent a
20 long time just on this and from what I
21 understand and just listening and what I'm
22 thinking myself, that's hard to grasp. Here's
23 the scenario and I think this would wrap it up.

24 If I'm working just as hard at one school
25 and just as hard at another school, could the

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1 school effect actually make it so that I would
2 not have as high a value-added model at one
3 school versus another even though I was working
4 just as hard at each school?

5 DR. COHEN: That is exactly the question
6 that you want answered, and the answer to that
7 is that it depends on what you believe moves
8 student achievement. That's not something we
9 can give you a statistical answer for. It
10 depends -- this is really -- if I knew what
11 caused student achievement, I'd write a book and
12 retire and all that.

13 MR. LeTELLIER: Okay, but with what you
14 have with those models, as you increase the
15 school effect you decreased to use a word you
16 used before in another graph the spread of the
17 potential of what a teacher could be effective
18 as, correct?

19 DR. COHEN: Well, you go back to the old
20 language. No, as I recognize the common
21 component within school of student learning, I
22 acknowledge that there is less of a unique
23 teacher component to it. However that common
24 component is due to my actions as a teacher is
25 the decision that -- it's going to depend on

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1 give you two examples of world views, two
2 different belief systems. Suppose I believe
3 that school leadership is of primary importance.
4 So anything that any of that component is due
5 entirely to the principal, all right. Then
6 under that situation -- and let's say you go
7 from a school with a great principal to a school
8 with a lousy principal, right? Under that
9 scenario, if the whole common component is due
10 to the principal then you want to completely
11 separate the unique teacher contribution from
12 the common component, and that's a situation
13 under which you doing the same thing with the
14 same group of kids is going to get you the same
15 value-added score. That's one world view that
16 the school leadership is causing that common
17 component.

18 All right. Now let's go to a completely
19 different world view, and my apologies to any
20 principals in the room -- suppose the principal
21 doesn't matter at all. Suppose that the only
22 thing that affects student learning is teachers,
23 right, and maybe some principals are better at
24 selecting teachers. Maybe some schools are
25 closer to better training institutions; for

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1 what we believe to be true.

2 MR. LeTELLIER: So does that consequently
3 from school A to school B, same teacher goes
4 from the same school, if this was working out
5 totally equally, that same teacher that was
6 working hard in school A goes to school B; they
7 should get the same value-added model effect,
8 but --

9 MS. BROWN: Only if they have the same
10 population of students and the same demographic
11 and --

12 MS. EDGECOMB: That's the key.

13 PANEL MEMBER: Right.

14 MS. BROWN: Because working hard is
15 relative to your belief system of level of
16 effort and --

17 MR. LeTELLIER: Yeah, I'm saying doing what
18 you need to be doing as a teacher and what we're
19 basing this on is we're saying -- take the kids
20 that are all scoring 96's, we'll just say 96 out
21 of 100. Once you get up to that point, it's
22 very hard to move a kid. So that's obviously a
23 student teacher level.

24 DR. COHEN: I understand what you're saying
25 and I understand your frustration. So let me

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1 whatever reason you have some better teachers
2 concentrated in some schools. In that world, if
3 I go from a school with -- let me try to get
4 this right. I've got a school with lousy
5 colleagues, right, and I'm there so the common
6 component is going to -- all right. For the
7 common component, it would be a low score but
8 I'm a great teacher and I come out about
9 average; and then I go to a school -- I'm sorry,
10 I confused myself.

11 MS. BROWN: What if you take a totally
12 different view and what if you say that you
13 believe that the common pieces are a combination
14 of things, like increased levels of parent
15 involvement, highly involved PTA. Lawrence's
16 point last time, level of resources available in
17 the school, materials, etc., those are things we
18 can't measure. But let's just say that's part
19 of -- if someone believes that that's part of
20 that common component, so then what we're saying
21 is that same teacher, similar effort, but if we
22 say that common component makes a difference
23 then that common component needs to be
24 considered.

25 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)

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1 MS. BOURN: (Inaudible) -- outside the
 2 teacher's control.
 3 DR. HOVANETZ: I think this is.
 4 Where you're trying to go -- you lost the
 5 train of thought here, but same exact teacher,
 6 hypothetically duplicated in two different
 7 schools, one with the high school effect and one
 8 with a low school effect, what's the implication
 9 on that value-added score?
 10 MS. BROWN: Yes.
 11 MR. FOERSTER: Yes.
 12 DR. COHEN: So if there are school level
 13 things that are causing the common component
 14 then you need to differentiate it and attribute
 15 it zero to the teachers and that's how you'll
 16 get equal, if there are no school level things
 17 causing the common component. If the common
 18 component really only reflects the average of
 19 the teachers in the school then the way you get
 20 your fair score is to apply the entire common
 21 component to each individual teacher. You go to
 22 one of these models instead of one of these.
 23 MS. BROWN: But you're still not --
 24 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)
 25 DR. COHEN: Hold on. The answer is it
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1 depends. There are two different scenarios. If
 2 there are independent factors that influence the
 3 common component of the schools, then equal
 4 effort will get you an equal score under this
 5 model attributing zero of the common component
 6 to you. If there are no independent factors in
 7 the world causing the common component within
 8 the school then you're better off not
 9 attributing any of -- then you're better off
 10 attributing all the common component to each
 11 teacher. So it depends on what you believe. I
 12 can't tell you you'll get the right answer if
 13 you use this model because it depends on how the
 14 world really works.
 15 Arlene?
 16 MS. GINN: My question really, this is just
 17 for me and it may be that the gentleman and all
 18 you guys that are principals, let's take a
 19 teacher. I'm in a school where I'm teaching
 20 gifted kids. I'm telling you my scores are way
 21 up there; it's easy for me because the kids are
 22 already there. If I move to a school wherein
 23 let's say the school effect is little to none,
 24 but now I'm moving to a school wherein I have a
 25 group of kids that what I did in that school is
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1 just not going to make it with this one. So I
 2 have a choice -- either to keep the one that I
 3 did there with minimal results or since I know
 4 that my kids need more become even more
 5 effective, work even harder.
 6 Does that have any impact on the scores?
 7 DR. COHEN: It doesn't measure equitably,
 8 and as Harold likes to point out sometimes, some
 9 teachers do have harder jobs than others. To
 10 get the same result, they've got to work harder.
 11 MS. GINN: Well, that's my question to the
 12 principals, too, that have been -- do you see
 13 that? Do teachers have to -- not just speaking
 14 for myself -- do teachers need to at this
 15 school, school M, a high level of gifted
 16 children; so I may be effective but it will be
 17 implicated by my population. Over here I'm
 18 already a real good teacher, but over here I've
 19 got a bunch of sweat hogs if you will that I'm
 20 going to need to do something --
 21 PANEL MEMBER: You don't need to --
 22 PANEL MEMBER: Wait a minute.
 23 MS. GINN: -- and this is said
 24 affectionately, then I'm going to have to do
 25 something extra but now I don't, then that means
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1 it's the teacher effect more than students.
 2 DR. DORAN: Let me try to get us back to
 3 something real quickly. We're delving in --
 4 DR. HOVANETZ: Can I we -- we have a theory
 5 about how --
 6 DR. DORAN: Okay, okay, all right, all
 7 right.
 8 DR. HOVANETZ: So hand the microphone back
 9 to Jon. This is going to be a staged thing. My
 10 world view is school effects -- we don't believe
 11 that school effect is impacted.
 12 DR. COHEN: So in your real world, school
 13 effects only reflect the average of the teachers
 14 at the school, the average teacher -- okay?
 15 MS. GINN: Would you please stand so we can
 16 hear you? Thank you so much.
 17 DR. HOVANETZ: Another way to think about
 18 that could be -- don't yell at me if I get it
 19 wrong -- all the student learning that occurs in
 20 that school is the result only of the efforts of
 21 all of the teachers in the school. That's one.
 22 So what we want to know is do you believe that
 23 or -- we believe that --
 24 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)
 25 DR. COHEN: Okay, okay.
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1 All right. There's only one fair thing to
2 do and that is attribute all the common effects
3 to each teacher.

4 DR. HOVANETZ: It's Jon's question and I'm
5 trying to rectify this, too, but we keep talking
6 around this issue and it won't give us the
7 actual implication of if my world view is that
8 all of the teachers -- everything that happens
9 in the school is an aggregate effect of what the
10 teachers are doing, and Jon is one school that's
11 got high effects, one school that's got low
12 effects. What is the implication for that
13 teacher's effect? That's my world view.

14 DR. DORAN: We're getting lost in a couple
15 of things. Let me try and bring us back to
16 something. We're delving into hypotheticals of
17 what would happen if this happened and this
18 happened, and this is going to be a conversation
19 that's going to be circular, and it's going to
20 be very difficult to move beyond this.

21 Let me try and answer the question. I
22 actually did answer this a little bit earlier.
23 Let me try and state this a little bit
24 differently to try and move this forward.

25 If you're in school A, in order to be --
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1 and school effects are included or school
2 effects are not included -- what you do in
3 school A in order to have a high value-added
4 effect will be different than what it requires
5 to have a high value-added effect in school B
6 with or without school effects. Conditions
7 change, teaching conditions change, student
8 populations change. When we use terms like if I
9 do the same thing here that I did here, it's
10 kind of a level of abstraction that's really
11 hard for us to attach real meaning to and give
12 you an answer to. So while I like the question
13 and I want to be able to give you an answer,
14 it's only -- we've spent the last hour on this
15 question and we're going to continue to spend
16 the next hour on this question because it is
17 circular.

18 We can explore various consequences of the
19 if's and and's, but let me bring us back to
20 where we need to be in terms of the policy. Do
21 schools matter?

22 DR. COHEN: Harold, I think you
23 over-stepped it. I think -- actually, let me
24 try to hijack your example, okay? You two are
25 teachers; please stand up, Mary Ann. You are a

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1 teacher who believes that there are a lot of
2 forces out there including principals and
3 families and everything else that cause school
4 effects.

5 Christy, you believe -- you live in a world
6 where the only thing that affects student
7 learning is you and your colleagues. Okay.

8 And John, you want to know for Christy and
9 Mary Ann which model would cause them to have
10 the same individual rating, the same individual
11 ranking, whether -- regardless of what school
12 they're at; is that right?

13 DR. HOVANETZ: Under my world view, what do
14 I look at? A high performing school or a low
15 performing school? In Mary Ann's world view,
16 what does she look like in a high performing
17 versus a low performing school?

18 MS. BROWN: What would be the range of
19 teacher effects within each world view?

20 DR. COHEN: Okay. Christy, you're the only
21 thing that matters. If you wind up in a school
22 surrounded by -- well, there's another dimension
23 here. The dimension is model, right? So under
24 which model, right? So let's say we attribute
25 the common component to the school, right? We

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1 contribute 100% of the common component to the
2 school leadership; we're not attributing any to
3 the teacher. You find yourself -- so this is
4 this model attributing everything to the school.
5 The only thing that matters is this teacher.
6 You find yourself in a high achieving school;
7 we're going to under-rate you. We assume you're
8 both great teachers. We're going to under-rate
9 you. You're going to get a lower rating than if
10 you were in a low achieving school, right?

11 Now Mary Ann, you get exactly the opposite
12 answer. So Christy would prefer to be here
13 where all effects are attributed all and only to
14 the teacher, the common component is entirely
15 attributed to the teacher; that's where she gets
16 the same rating at either one of those schools.

17 Mary Ann differs in only one respect and
18 that is what she believes about the world is in
19 exactly the opposite situation. This will give
20 her a biased effect because as she finds herself
21 in a school with a rotten principal that's
22 driving learning down, her score is going to be
23 driven down whereas over here it gets subtracted
24 off. So it really is a choice between world
25 views, but they're dichotomous. It's a

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1 continuum. You can choose anywhere in between
2 the two of them.

3 MS. NOYA: At this point, I'm going around
4 in circles. Maybe I'm incorrect but this is
5 what I want to say. Having done this for so
6 many years of my lifetime, I know principals'
7 evaluations and administrators are also going to
8 be revamped by districts or whatever; teachers'
9 evaluations are being revamped as well.

10 I don't believe that anything is just
11 without school effects. It does impact it from
12 the top down, bottom up; I don't care how you
13 put it. I've been in low performing schools,
14 I've been in high performing schools. Who you
15 are still will be there, of course. Leadership
16 makes a difference, I truly believe, to support
17 the parents and everything else. But I guess at
18 this point everybody's going to have to pitch in
19 because everything is being revamped. Even
20 administrators' evaluations are being revamped
21 and is going to affect them as well.

22 So, you know, it's just the luck of the
23 draw. We've been doing this for 38 years.
24 Trying to make it perfect, it's not going to be
25 perfect and there's always going to be flaws.

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1 long time.

2 MS. KRISHNAIYER: I just want to say one
3 thing. I think apart from the confusion, I
4 think we need a level of comfort that it's going
5 to be fair, what we're doing, the school
6 effects. Jon said if you go to a low performing
7 school and your teacher is graded higher, your
8 teacher effect. We're looking for something
9 that will equalize it; I mean, I'm not using the
10 right words, but for me in my mind I need a
11 level of comfort that we're being fair to
12 teachers in both kinds of schools, and --

13 DR. COHEN: Nothing's going to be perfect,
14 but we don't want to drive away all the teachers
15 from high performing schools, either.

16 MS. KRISHNAIYER: And what can help us make
17 that a little more level playing field.

18 DR. COHEN: Christy said you can provide
19 some data for that?

20 DR. HOVANETZ: Oh, I can't do that but
21 Harold certainly can.

22 MR. FOERSTER: I'm not so sure we need data
23 as much as hypothetical examples. I mean, just
24 concrete, simple, here's what this would look
25 like, and the thing that I've noticed is missing

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1 But I think we've been going around in circles
2 for an hour and have not been moving forward
3 because the impacts we won't know until we start
4 all this, too.

5 DR. HOVANETZ: But you will know. We can
6 model that. I mean, we can tell you what I the
7 teacher will look like --

8 MS. NOYA: We need to see that.

9 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)

10 MS. NOYA: You might have a poor principal,
11 but then you have a great administrator who
12 drives the school. Principals -- some
13 principals don't run their schools, some
14 assistant principals who are top performing
15 assistant principals run the schools. So it is
16 a lot of variables involved.

17 MR. FOERSTER: Is it fair to say that we
18 should roll on? I mean, all of us have taken
19 really big swings at this and I think we at
20 least have consensus about what we're confused
21 about. We have a lot of other stuff to go
22 through. Is it okay with everybody if we just
23 keep moving? We'll come back to this; we have
24 to.

25 MS. GINN: She had her hand up for such a
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1 in the conversation, I think, is tying it back
2 to actual student growth.

3 MS. NOYA: Right.

4 MR. FOERSTER: I mean, we've tossed around
5 a few different terms to describe that there's
6 this common component, the teacher component,
7 and there's a school effect and a teacher
8 effect. What gets muddled, I think, is that
9 actual student growth as measured from the
10 progression line of expectation and it has all
11 these variables built in -- you either believe
12 it is all a consequence of the teacher or it is
13 a combination, a vector sum, of the school and
14 the teacher. Those are your two world views.
15 What is confusing, I think, at this point is
16 what that implies in a few different scenarios
17 where you have a teacher that generates a
18 certain amount of student growth, right? I
19 think that's what people are saying when they
20 say I work just as hard. I generate the same
21 amount of growth. What does it imply if I have
22 a model that assumes everything is the teacher,
23 and what does that imply if I assume that there
24 is a school effect and a teacher effect?

25 And I think where Anna was going -- I don't
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1 think that our points of view were in
 2 contradiction actually; I think assuming that
 3 you can break out the school effect completely
 4 such that you're net sum at any school is the
 5 school average and you've got half of your
 6 teachers with positive effects and half with
 7 negative, I see that as enormously problematic.

8 On the other hand, I think ignoring that
 9 there is a school effect is equally problematic.
 10 So where we're going to end up is deciding how
 11 we apportion the school effect, and before we
 12 can make a reasonable decision about how to do
 13 that I think some hypotheticals would be
 14 helpful.

15 PANEL MEMBER: Yes.

16 MS. BOURN: What does the same amount of
 17 student growth look like as it's impacted by a
 18 school effect in a high performing school and a
 19 low performing school? And how does that affect
 20 my score?

21 MR. FOERSTER: Yes.

22 MS. NOYA: Exactly.

23 MR. FOERSTER: So can we leave it that
 24 we'll get some hypothetical examples and pick
 25 that up tomorrow at some point when it's

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1 MS. BROWN: We want to see examples on the
 2 continuum so we can understand the continuum so
 3 we can decide whether we exclude this or go
 4 here.

5 DR. COHEN: No, I understand it but in
 6 order to apportion it, you have to know what the
 7 two pieces you're apportioning are. So in order
 8 -- you've got to estimate one of these models --

9 MS. BROWN: Right.

10 DR. COHEN: -- and then figure out how to
 11 combine it.

12 MS. BROWN: We need examples that show the
 13 apportionment and no school effects, so that we
 14 can compare and see what would the implications
 15 be.

16 DR. HOVANETZ: Jon, why don't we when we
 17 take a break at 4:00 the four of us, you, Mary
 18 Ann, Harold, and I, sit down and propose
 19 something for the committee to --

20 MS. NOYA: Yeah.

21 MR. FOERSTER: Try it.

22 DR. DORAN: Sam, I'm going to take your
 23 advice and move to the next slide. We're going
 24 to move to the next one called Model Parsimony.

25 Parsimony is another one of the criteria by
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1 appropriate, and then we can roll, we can move
 2 on to slide number whatever.

3 DR. COHEN: Let me just point out, you want
 4 to know what the right apportion is and --

5 MR. FOERSTER: No, we would like to see
 6 examples. I think we all agree that it's going
 7 to have to be apportioned. What does that mean?

8 DR. COHEN: Okay, that in and of itself is
 9 a huge amount of progress because if you
 10 estimate a model like Model 1, you don't know
 11 what the school effect is in order to apportion
 12 it. You have to estimate this model and then go
 13 to the apportioning exercise. So if there is
 14 consensus on that you could at least say, okay,
 15 we're over here; we have the apportioning.

16 MS. FEILD: Well, then you're saying that
 17 you've already decided that your world view is
 18 --

19 DR. COHEN: The world view is that it is
 20 part of this.

21 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)

22 MS. BROWN: Okay, hold up because I think
 23 what really he's saying is what you said last
 24 was it's not dichotomous. It's a continuum.

25 MS. NOYA: Right.

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1 which we're going to evaluate the models.

2 Now, what is parsimony? What are we
 3 looking for here? What do we want to know about
 4 models?

5 Does the model control variables without
 6 being overly complicated? We could take 30
 7 covariates and dump all those covariates into
 8 the regression model, but do you need to? Does
 9 that buy you anything statistically in terms of
 10 doing a better job in estimating teacher
 11 effects?

12 That's kind of the question that we're
 13 looking at.

14 Could you only include five covariates and
 15 do a job that is equally as good at predicting
 16 teacher effects than using all 30 of those
 17 covariates.

18 So essentially what we're looking at here
 19 is, is the model only as complex as it needs to
 20 be? Simple, elegant, accounting for things that
 21 are important but not overly complicated to the
 22 extent that it becomes difficult to explain,
 23 less transparent, and so forth, right? That's
 24 the question.

25 Is there a statistic we can look at that
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1 helps us understand? Yes, there is a statistic.
 2 We're going to look at the percent of current
 3 year test score variance accounted for by
 4 control variables in the models. Statistically,
 5 we call this an R-Square or a proportion of
 6 variances. We look at Model 1 from the fixed
 7 effects of Model 1. How much variation do we
 8 account for in student differences with those
 9 control variables? And then we compare that to
 10 the different models that have different control
 11 variables. There's a statistic that we're going
 12 to look at.

13 Is there something we're looking for in
 14 that statistic? The answer is yes; there's
 15 actually a couple of things.

16 One, we want a high portion of variance.
 17 So if we had two models and two models only, and
 18 let's just say Model 1 accounted for 20% of the
 19 variance and Model 2 accounted for 60% of the
 20 variance, we would prefer the model that
 21 accounted for more variance relative to the one
 22 -- less variance. That's what we're looking
 23 for, a higher proportion of variance. But
 24 there's a point of diminishing returns. Suppose
 25 I now have three models. One of the models

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1 didn't you include this and this and this and
 2 this and this? I know there's kids that -- and
 3 you say, we thought about that, we looked at
 4 some of those things and we found that people
 5 often, even statisticians, want to throw a lot
 6 of things into a regression model. It's not
 7 always valuable in doing that. As you're
 8 talking about this model in the state, suppose
 9 you're in a conversation where you had to say,
 10 well, we control for disabilities, we control
 11 for homogeneity, we control for class size, we
 12 control for this, that, that, and that, and
 13 people are going to start to look at you cross
 14 ways. If you don't buy anything statistically,
 15 why are you including all of those things when
 16 it makes it harder for you to explain the model?

17 Now people want to control the model
 18 because it makes us feel good about whether
 19 we're leveling the playing field, but they may
 20 not buy it. That's what we're about to look at
 21 and that's why we care.

22 MS. MARSALA: Can I ask this question? I
 23 know that all the statistics are done in the
 24 state, based on all the data; is it the same
 25 statistically looking at a single teacher's data

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1 accounts for 20% of the variance, Model 2
 2 accounts for 60% of the variance, and let's just
 3 say Model 2 has five covariates in it; and Model
 4 3 has 25 covariates and it accounts for 62% of
 5 the variance, right? You've got a whole bunch
 6 of additional covariates that don't buy you much
 7 when you look at that proportion. They buy you
 8 2% more. So there's no number that says is a 3%
 9 difference good enough, is a 5%? That's not
 10 what we're looking for here. We're not looking
 11 for a particular number; we're looking for a
 12 human judgment.

13 Do I really care? Is the difference
 14 between 60% and 62% enough that I would want to
 15 include all 25 covariates relative to including
 16 just 5? It's kind of what we're looking for
 17 here. So there's a point of diminishing
 18 returns.

19 Why should we care about this? The model
 20 doesn't need to be needlessly complex. When you
 21 go out into the state and across the state and
 22 you're ambassadors for the model and people say,
 23 well, how do you control for differences between
 24 schools? You say, well, there are covariates
 25 for 1, 2, 3, and 4; and the teacher says why

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1 versus we're now looking at a huge scale and
 2 they're all coming up about the same, but if you
 3 look at one teacher is there then a difference
 4 versus the big scale?

5 MS. FRAKES: Especially a special education
 6 teacher whose students are all ESE or double
 7 retainees because age becomes one of those
 8 variables. Are the statistics the same for that
 9 teacher as they are across the state?

10 DR. DORAN: Well, objectively, the
 11 statistic had a teacher component, but the
 12 question is would that cause there to be any
 13 differences in the estimates of the teacher
 14 effects when you include a decline. In some
 15 very small instances, it might. Whether or not
 16 it does, we know it has a small impact because
 17 we looked at the correlation between teacher
 18 effects on all of these models and they're all
 19 very highly correlated. I wish we had shown you
 20 this graph but I can't show it -- don't - have
 21 it here.

22 So in terms of whether it switches the
 23 classification, the answer is no. Does it
 24 matter about the teacher level when you include
 25 something or not include something? Not a whole

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1 lot.

2 MS. KEARSCHNER: You're saying that
3 statistically there's not a whole lot of
4 difference whether or not these particular
5 factors are in there, or that there is not that
6 much of a variant.

7 DR. DORAN: Let me actually present the
8 data before -- because I made that judgment.
9 Yeah.

10 MS. KEARSCHNER: Okay, but let me just say
11 something. You made a statement, and we talked
12 about this last time, that there is a reason for
13 these things to be in there or not be in there,
14 two different reasons. One would be for showing
15 the differences statistically or seeing their
16 impact, and the other reason is more political.
17 It's to say we looked at these and there is no
18 difference. Could that not also be the reason
19 for keeping them in? So we have to say yes,
20 we've considered these, they're here, we could
21 say, and it gives that level of confidence in
22 the model and is transparent. I think that's
23 something that we had looked at last time and
24 the reason why we might want to include it.

25 DR. DORAN: One of the things that we are
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1 differences in the models in terms of how much
2 variation in student scores are accounted for
3 when you include more covariates than when you
4 include less. So, for example, Model 3C -- the
5 model that has the most covariates in it -- is
6 comparable to Model 1 that has the fewest
7 covariates in it. In other words, another way
8 of saying this is we don't form necessarily
9 better predictions in the model with the most
10 covariates than we do with the fewest. Now if
11 we saw, for example, that this model only
12 accounted for 20% of the variation and this
13 model over here accounted for 60%, we might say
14 that seems to me a huge difference is.
15 Essentially, what we're seeing in these results
16 is the models are comparable in terms of how
17 much variation in the students scores they
18 account for. Similar predictions.

19 MS. MARSALA: But this is based on the
20 State data, not -- if you're looking at teachers
21 to get back those scores, are they going to get
22 sent back the summer; is it possible at that
23 point that it would make a difference to the
24 individual teachers based on who they're
25 teaching? The actual covariates?
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1 going to show you is whether or not there are
2 different expectations for and using that as
3 criteria is your decision, right? You're going
4 to have the data by which you can make that
5 judgment. It doesn't matter in your view if --
6 we're going to show you the data.

7 Why don't I actually show you the data,
8 okay.

9 All right. The first statistic we're
10 looking at is for reading. This is the
11 R-Square. This is the amount of variation in
12 students' scores that the fixed effects account
13 for. Remember, refer back to your sheet so you
14 know which models are which because remember
15 some of the models include more covariates than
16 others, and we know that -- in fact, these two
17 models account for the largest proportion of
18 total variance. This is the one that has the
19 most covariates in it; this one has fewer.
20 Remember when I said there's a point of
21 diminishing -- in fact, they only differ in the
22 third decimal place. It's only because of the
23 way they're plotted that they appear to be
24 different there.

25 But look here; we see relatively similar
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1 DR. DORAN: One of the things I want to be
2 really careful of is, yes, there are some
3 plausible explanations why things could happen.
4 If I could say to you that, yes, things would be
5 different if you would include this here, then I
6 would know the right answer. I would be able to
7 tell you, yes, include this because -- but think
8 about this. Let's suppose that a teacher
9 classification does change because you include
10 one covariate versus another. Which model is
11 right? We don't know, right?

12 So I want to let you entertain the question
13 about whether that covariate matters to you when
14 you make a judgment about your model. I don't
15 want to hypothesize about which particular model
16 I think I should advocate for, nor do I want to
17 tell you that, yes, they will change because
18 it's plausible that some teachers will
19 experience this perhaps as a result of this,
20 perhaps as a result of other things, which is
21 similar to the conversation we're having -- we
22 need to be cautious on whether we tell you, yes,
23 things will be different because of -- I don't
24 know whether I should tell you this is the right
25 model or this is the right model, that's your
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1 judgment.

2 There will be differences in the estimates
3 of the teachers, but they are highly correlated.

4 MS. BOURN: If you look at the one with no
5 control variables, the two with no control
6 variables, 3A is virtually the same as the other
7 ones with all the variables, and the difference
8 between 3A and 3A1 is just one year or two
9 years, so isn't it the number of years that
10 seems to make the difference?

11 DR. DORAN: Ronda, you're a step ahead
12 because we're going to look at another criterion
13 in terms of the lags that tells us whether or
14 not, including more likely it doesn't add up or
15 not, but you are right. We're looking at
16 something that does seem to matter whether or
17 not it follows here or somewhere else on this
18 characteristic. But there's something else
19 that's different about these models, right?
20 That's why we wouldn't make judgments about the
21 models looking at any given criterion but only
22 looking across the different criterion.
23 Different lags, it does matter.

24 Now one of the things that's going on here
25 -- and this is the debate in the value-added
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1 this, is that right now we're only looking at
2 the variance in the models, and because like you
3 said we're going to look across this whole
4 array, but this is telling us that it makes no
5 difference as far as accounting for the
6 variance; it may make a difference somewhere
7 else. Therefore, it's no harm, no foul
8 including or excluding when you're looking at
9 accounting for variance.

10 DR. DORAN: This is accounting for by fixed
11 effects. I'm talking about the control
12 variables. The control variables add a whole
13 lot more in terms of proportion of total
14 variance, but are there other possible
15 consequences? Yes. And remember, that's why
16 we're presenting along this series of the
17 different criteria.

18 MS. BROWN: So if, in fact, no harm/no foul
19 at the aggregate -- the big scale level -- then
20 and if there's the potential that at one teacher
21 level there might be a difference, it doesn't
22 hurt either way when we get to the final
23 decision with respect to controlling for the
24 amount of variance.

25 DR. DORAN: I just switched a moment ago to
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1 literatures; do covariates matter at all? Do
2 you capture enough of the variability in prior
3 scores by conditioning on or by using pre-test
4 scores? Pre-test scores seem to capture a whole
5 lot of the variability in student scores because
6 remember that's what these models are doing.
7 They have the lags only, either one or two lags.
8 But when you have only one or two lags, they're
9 comparable when you have one or two lags plus a
10 whole lot of other things. So do those other
11 things buy you anything?

12 DR. COHEN: Harold, we should acknowledge
13 the point John made -- I think John made it
14 early in the conversation that while in the
15 aggregate these statistics, the teacher effects
16 tend to be correlated across the different
17 models like 0.9, 0.91, 0.92. They're very
18 highly correlated. But for an individual
19 teacher, they may differ. Say you have that one
20 kid who has terrible attendance in your class,
21 and if attendance matters then while it may not
22 improve the overall fit of the model in any
23 noticeable way, it may make it different for
24 some teachers.

25 MS. BROWN: This is what I'm taking from
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1 MAB (ph). You see a very similar thing here in
2 MAB. By similar, we don't see that this model
3 accounts for very little variability or these
4 ones don't account for little variability while
5 these models account for a whole lot of
6 variability. We see comparable estimates in
7 terms of how much variance in scores the
8 different models account for.

9 So part of the question that we're looking
10 at here is, in terms of accounting for variance
11 test scores, do you buy a lot when you add in
12 more covariates? Do we?

13 PANEL MEMBERS: No.

14 MR. LeTELLIER: Question about that. This
15 is looking at State data.

16 DR. DORAN: It's across the state.

17 MR. LeTELLIER: So as you're looking at
18 State data, obviously there's going to be less
19 variance because you have such a great number.
20 As you go down to the district level and then if
21 you went down to the school level and then down
22 to a grade level within the school, would there
23 be as you went down each step of the way and you
24 have less students that you were looking at,
25 would the variances on these be a lot greater?

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1 DR. DORAN: No idea.
 2 DR. COHEN: I can answer part of that. To
 3 the extent you start to truncate the variance in
 4 student achievement, you're going to change the
 5 proportion of variance accounted for, but the
 6 models should hold pretty well through
 7 everything. All this is grade level specific;
 8 it's not a cross grade. So the grade --
 9 district is going to look pretty much like the
 10 State. So while you might have small
 11 differences within the model, you wouldn't
 12 expect to see big differences.

13 MR. LeTELLIER: Then as you finally went --
 14 let's say you're using 7th grade, correct?

15 DR. COHEN: Yes.

16 MR. LeTELLIER: So you're using 7th grade
 17 just in one school, say there's five 7th grade
 18 classrooms, and looking at just those five
 19 compared to each other.

20 DR. COHEN: You would -- when we say
 21 variance, the variance is explained by the
 22 control variables in the current score, in your
 23 test scores. Your FCAT score this year, right?
 24 Your most recent FCAT score.

25 If you were to go to, say, a trigonometry
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1 class in 7th grade where you have only the
 2 brightest students, I mean, that's a few years,
 3 then you would have very little variance in that
 4 dependent variable, so as a proportion this
 5 model would be explaining very little of that
 6 because there's very little variance there to
 7 explain. So it's not exactly -- it's not always
 8 the right question to ask, but when the best
 9 fitting lines don't fit the same, odds are you
 10 can probably also find where it was. Did that
 11 help?

12 MS. BROWN: I think what John's trying to
 13 say is, if this was all 7th grade Algebra 1,
 14 just say that, that way you're not changing
 15 levels of courses, you're not changing
 16 abilities; this is what it is. If this is the
 17 State level and we're saying that it accounts
 18 for approximately 70% of the variance, would it
 19 then hold true that let's say if we got to a
 20 district level or a school level for the same
 21 exact course, even though the level of variance
 22 might be different, but would they all be
 23 consistently the same? Is that your theory that
 24 you're talking about?

25 DR. COHEN: I'm not sure I -- see, the
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1 variance here, the total variance is the
 2 statewide variance of all students who were in
 3 any math class. So if you start truncating that
 4 variance by choosing, say, only Algebra 1
 5 students in the 7th grade --

6 MS. BROWN: I know, but what I was saying
 7 was let's hypothesize that what we're looking at
 8 is Algebra 1. So we're not truncating, we're
 9 just saying; I'm just trying to do that as a
 10 very simplistic example. I mean, the point here
 11 is the models react similarly to the inclusion
 12 of the covariate in how they control for the
 13 variance in test scores, correct?

14 DR. COHEN: That's right.

15 MS. BROWN: Let me ask it another way. If
 16 you were to plot this graph 67 times one per
 17 district, would it look identical?

18 DR. DORAN: Okay. There's an answer to
 19 that question. This is on the statement. This
 20 is population. To the degree that districts are
 21 a representative sample of the state at large,
 22 they would look exactly the same, but they're
 23 not.

24 MS. BROWN: That's what I'm saying.
 25 They're not.

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1 DR. DORAN: So if we did this district by
 2 district, would it look exactly like this?

3 MS. BROWN: No.

4 DR. DORAN: No. But how would it differ?
 5 It's unknown. It depends on the concentration
 6 of students and how those students perform
 7 differentially within that. It's an
 8 unanswerable question we don't know. To the
 9 degree that the districts are a representative
 10 sample of the State, the model would hold and
 11 would look exactly like this. To the degree
 12 that districts systematically differ from the
 13 State in terms of their student characteristics
 14 in the population, it will be different. We
 15 cannot give you an answer in terms of would it
 16 be high or would it be low? It is unanswerable.

17 MS. BROWN: That's what I wanted you to say
 18 because that --

19 MR. MOREHOUSE: That's precisely the
 20 problem. Instead of a known impact on those
 21 teachers, they may end up losing their job.
 22 That number could be much more significant than
 23 we realize. I mean, it's one thing to try to
 24 achieve parsimony, but there's a human element
 25 that's involved here.

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1 DR. DORAN: There is a human element. I'm
 2 going to go back to this. We should have shown
 3 this graph. Suppose we take a model that has no
 4 covariates and a model that has a whole lot of
 5 covariates and on the scatter plot, the
 6 correlation between those models was really
 7 close to zero then we would be able to say this
 8 matters a lot to teacher classifications, but it
 9 doesn't. We should show you that the
 10 correlation between the teacher effects under
 11 the different models is so highly correlated
 12 that it doesn't change those. It does some.
 13 Now, why, I don't know, it's going to change for
 14 a number of teachers, but in large part it does
 15 not change.

16 MR. LeTELLIER: Can you -- I know part of
 17 the thing is, you know, last time we asked you
 18 to run certain things and all that, and I have
 19 no idea how hard it is to run stuff, so I'm
 20 asking can you run something -- numbers for
 21 three different counties or two different
 22 counties that are completely different to see?
 23 Because one of the things is if you're saying
 24 the average county -- the average is here, but
 25 we could have counties, let's say that there's

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1 four or five counties that fall well below these
 2 averages, and that by not including the
 3 variables for those counties, for those schools,
 4 it would make a huge impact. I think in that
 5 case that's what we're looking at because we --
 6 on the statewide level, fine, they all look the
 7 same, but --

8 DR. DORAN: I want Juan to weigh in on this
 9 in just a moment here. One of the things that I
 10 understand, this is a statewide model, but
 11 supposing we run this on different districts and
 12 we see differences. The models won't be run
 13 district by district. So I'm not sure it --
 14 while it might be interesting to look at in
 15 terms of the policy, in terms of how this model
 16 becomes implemented and operationalized, what
 17 would the question be that would impact its
 18 operational status? So that would be my
 19 question.

20 MS. FEILD: No, but I was going to say
 21 you're right, but the issue is going back to
 22 Anna's comment or someone else, if we choose not
 23 to include the complex model that had 20
 24 variables because we don't want to say to
 25 teachers, yeah, we included this, this, this, or

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1 that because we see no variance here; but yet if
 2 I use that model versus the five variable one in
 3 Miami-Dade then I'm going to have a better
 4 analysis than maybe as a state organization we
 5 decide we're going to go with the complex model
 6 because that's going to balance out the
 7 differentiated students level at Miami-Dade
 8 versus a school that's very different. So to me
 9 it's an issue of going with a very simple model
 10 because it's easier to explain or with a complex
 11 model that will help us pick up all the
 12 differentiation from the diversity.

13 DR. DORAN: Now before I go over to you,
 14 just one second. Let's be clear. We're not
 15 recommending to you to choose one particular
 16 model over another because it's easier to
 17 explain.

18 MS. FEILD: No, no, I understand. I
 19 understand.

20 DR. DORAN: Whether these control variables
 21 do a better job in predicting where students
 22 should be and this statistic is showing whether
 23 or not including the variables does a better job
 24 in forming those predictions, and this model
 25 here, for example, doesn't do a substantially

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1 better job in forming student predictions for
 2 all students in the state than this model does
 3 here. So the criteria by which we evaluate this
 4 is not in terms of its transparency to explain,
 5 but does it buy you anything statistically to do
 6 a better job in forming student predictions, and
 7 not for one district, but for every key of the
 8 state.

9 MR. FOERSTER: Harold, I think the point
 10 is.

11 That because this analysis has only been
 12 done at the State level, we may come to a
 13 conclusion based on a false sense of security
 14 that these variables don't matter ever, and they
 15 may not matter ever. I actually am in the camp
 16 that likely most districts are going to be
 17 pretty statistically representative; I could be
 18 wrong and I think where John was going was it
 19 seems like a pretty -- well, it's easy for us
 20 because we don't have to run it. Let me preface
 21 it by that.

22 But it's something we could rule out. If
 23 we took a Miami-Dade and a Madison County and
 24 three or four others that run the spectrum of
 25 demographics, run them again and we see this

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1 again very even distribution in terms of
 2 accountability of variance; then I think
 3 everybody would be comfortable in buying the
 4 argument that parsimony matters and we'd take
 5 the simple model. If we find out that there are
 6 significant variances across the districts, then
 7 if I took Anna's point there's reason to believe
 8 that accepting the more complicated model
 9 matters for some people, even though if you look
 10 at it at the State level, you can argue that it
 11 doesn't; individual districts you can argue that
 12 it does; and there --

13 MS. BROWN: There have been truncates all
 14 the way down to individual teachers.

15 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)

16 MR. FOERSTER: Which is where Lawrence has
 17 been talking and John has been talking, so I
 18 guess the question -- I'm assuming the committee
 19 would like to see that if it's possible to do
 20 those kinds of calculations. Is it possible?

21 DR. COHEN: I would expect it's probably
 22 possible to do a comparison for two or three
 23 districts for overnight and look at the
 24 R-Square. Now if the variance in student
 25 achievement -- this is the R-Square -- if the

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1 variance in student achievement is different
 2 across the different counties that we look at,
 3 you will see differences and that's just a fact
 4 of life. The more you truncate the variance,
 5 the lower the proportion of variance explained
 6 is going to be. Also, so if we're going to do
 7 that, we'd like to do it with -- and if that's a
 8 statistic you want to look at, we should
 9 probably do with districts that have a lot of
 10 variation in student achievement paralleling the
 11 State.

12 You also get if you truncate the current
 13 score variance, like the FCAT variance by
 14 choosing say very low performing districts,
 15 you'll also change all of the co-efficients in
 16 the model, not because the world operates
 17 different there but from a statistical artifact.
 18 Let me just draw this real quickly.

19 MR. FOERSTER: Are you going the same
 20 place?

21 MS. BROWN: I don't know.

22 MR. COPA: Let me try something. Back to
 23 -- I think Harold mentioned it, we're developing
 24 a State formula, so we're not going to be
 25 calculating 67 different formulas, for example.

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1 And the R-Square itself is a function of the
 2 formula, so the comparison of R-Squares across
 3 districts is probably not a direction we want to
 4 go. I think one direction back to I think
 5 Gisela's point or Sam's point that you add a
 6 control variable for ELL, for example, and it
 7 might not add much explanatory power of the
 8 formula, but it's statistically significant and
 9 controlling for ELL may make a huge difference
 10 in Miami-Dade County where you have a lot of ELL
 11 students and not make a difference in Liberty
 12 County where there's very few ELL -- very few
 13 students at all. No offense to Liberty County.

14 So maybe back to some of the other points
 15 about illustrations on similar types of
 16 teachers, what would their value add score be
 17 across different models, something along those
 18 results; I think going down this road of
 19 comparing R-Squares across different counties --

20 I don't think that's really a viable road to go
 21 down to since we will not eventually be
 22 estimating 67 different formulas. I mean, it's
 23 one statewide formula applied across the 67
 24 counties. So it's really a question of how
 25 those results from the formula vary across

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1 counties.

2 MS. FEILD: Exactly. That's exactly what
 3 we're talking about. Very well said.

4 MS. STEWART: And to kind of go to
 5 something that Anna said at the start of this
 6 conversation, is there a downside? Is there a
 7 harm to including more variables?

8 DR. COHEN: There's not harm. Parsimony
 9 says fewer is better, it's less data you have to
 10 worry about cleaning up. The harm only comes in
 11 when you start adding variables that are very
 12 highly correlated with one another. So two
 13 variables are very much the same, you don't want
 14 to include both of them to make everything less
 15 precise. But you don't have that problem with
 16 any of the stuff we've considered so far.

17 But actually let me move on to the slide
 18 that we almost took out. I think it's next.
 19 There we go. So we looked at the effect of the
 20 different -- of all the different control
 21 variables that you guys wanted to take a look at
 22 and we -- so there are some things that we
 23 control for that are not on this slide. This
 24 slide does not show you the co-efficiencies
 25 associated with prior achievement score.

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1 They're huge, they're significant, they make a
 2 big difference. There's a bunch of indicator
 3 variables that we have to include for technical
 4 reasons, all kinds of stuff that goes in there
 5 for technical reasons that I can talk about if
 6 you want. These are the substantive variables
 7 that you guys wanted included and that will be
 8 looked at, and the yellow highlight tells you
 9 which ones were statistically significant.
 10 Remember, we had the variances explained across
 11 these three models were not very different, but
 12 you do see some things that show up as
 13 statistically significant and we can then walk
 14 through these and think about whether you want
 15 to keep them in the model.

16 So language impaired -- these are all SWD
 17 variables, all the different SWD variables. The
 18 more things you include, the fewer of them are
 19 statistically significant. That's what I was
 20 saying about introducing things that are
 21 correlated with one another. But in general
 22 many of the SWD variables are statistically
 23 significant. You might want to leave them in
 24 there. You may want to go through and say let's
 25 keep these and let's get rid of those, all the

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1 ones that aren't significant, but then you have
 2 to explain that to somebody so maybe you want to
 3 leave them all in there.

4 Class size for the first class is
 5 statistically significant. It's a small effect
 6 and it's a small negative effect, meaning that
 7 teachers in smaller classes seem to have
 8 slightly higher value-added scores. If the
 9 typical teacher has a class of about 20 students
 10 then that's about four scaled score points.
 11 Adding it after 20 students would decrease your
 12 score by about four scale score points. So it's
 13 a small it's not going to a 40 person class, I
 14 don't think. And if it is -- statistically
 15 significant and it's there. We went up to six
 16 classes and in classes three through six nothing
 17 was significant. None of it was significant and
 18 in order to make it fit on the slide, we put it
 19 on one thing.

20 Homogeneity in classes. Oddly, in the
 21 first class it's not significant; in the second
 22 class it is, but it's a very small effect.
 23 That's probably where you deal with noise.
 24 These are things that appear only in the kitchen
 25 sink model we call it, Model 3C.

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1 MS. WESTPHAL: Is your effect -- not your
 2 effect, your -- the yellow one, is that based on
 3 incidents, high numbers because your numbers are
 4 not lining up for me? Like, look at dual
 5 sensory -- is that not significant because
 6 there's only -- there's such a low independent
 7 population?

8 DR. COHEN: It may be if it's very rare to
 9 quite a few cases, then --

10 MS. WESTPHAL: It seems like that's the
 11 correlation then.

12 DR. COHEN: Certainly the fewer kids you
 13 have the less likely you are to see a
 14 statistically significant effect.

15 MS. WESTPHAL: Okay, but wouldn't it be
 16 significant to the teacher who only teachers
 17 dual sensory impaired?

18 DR. COHEN: This model says we don't know;
 19 we can't distinguish it from what would happen
 20 by chance. All right. Let's look at these.

21 The difference from the modal age if you're one
 22 year behind, one year behind, so essentially
 23 you're likely to have been -- or one year ahead,
 24 you're likely to have been retained by one year;
 25 that's an almost 8 point difference in what's

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1 expected for you. That's a reasonably large
 2 effect.

3 Mobility. One transition is going to drop
 4 your expected score by five points. Some kids
 5 have three, four, five transitions. I think
 6 five is a lot.

7 Attendance. Attendance has a significant
 8 effect in both models and a very similar
 9 co-efficient, also. So we measured attendance
 10 in terms of days present, not days absent
 11 because the different counties have different
 12 numbers of school days. Is that right? Yeah,
 13 okay. So let's say a huge difference, 100 day
 14 difference so I can do the math would be a 16
 15 point difference; so a 50 day difference in
 16 attendance would be an 8 point difference; a 25
 17 day difference in attendance would still be high
 18 but now we're into the range that you actually
 19 see a bunch of that, would be a 4 point
 20 different. More attendance is better; kids
 21 learn more when they're in school, according to
 22 this model.

23 And in all of our models there's a big
 24 effect, about a 28 point effect, under expected
 25 score of being ELL. This is after controlling

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1 for your prior scores. So some of these things,
 2 even though it doesn't improve the fit of the
 3 model, it will make differences in expectations
 4 for individual teachers. So a teacher who's got
 5 a kid who's absent a lot, if two or three kids
 6 are absent a lot, the expectation even though
 7 the R-Square doesn't change, the expectation for
 8 what the kids will do and therefore the
 9 standards to which they're being held will vary
 10 a lot if you include the attendance.
 11 MS. WOODHOUSE-YOUNG: You've highlighted
 12 some negative values and then I see up where you
 13 have negative pinpoint 0.8, the negative 8.85,
 14 that's not highlighted. But then we have
 15 highlighted here negative 7.0. I don't
 16 understand the number, just the values, why some
 17 are highlighted. I understand the negative and
 18 positive graphs maybe.
 19 MR. FOERSTER: What's the range? What do
 20 the numbers mean?
 21 MS. WOODHOUSE-YOUNG: I don't understand
 22 why some things are highlighted and why some
 23 aren't.
 24 DR. COHEN: Okay, okay. If something's not
 25 highlighted, that means in these models we

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1 couldn't distinguish it from chance. It was not
 2 statistically significant.
 3 MS. WOODHOUSE-YOUNG: So the numbers don't
 4 mean anything, though, the negative 10.08?
 5 DR. COHEN: If it's white, probably ignore
 6 it because it could just be due to sampling
 7 error. If it's yellow, that means that it is
 8 not due to change.
 9 MS. WOODHOUSE-YOUNG: So that negative 7.92
 10 that's highlighted -- I can't see what it's
 11 actually related to -- and then the negative
 12 5.36, that's highlighted?
 13 DR. COHEN: Yeah.
 14 MS. WOODHOUSE-YOUNG: So the numbers
 15 themselves, what does that mean to me?
 16 DR. COHEN: These variables are coded as a
 17 1 or a zero. That means that a kid who has been
 18 coded as other health impaired, his expected
 19 score, his expected growth is going to be almost
 20 eight points less than the kid who doesn't have
 21 that condition. If you put other things in the
 22 model, it's minus 5. These two numbers are
 23 probably not different than each other. That's
 24 within chance, but just due to the other things
 25 you're including in the model. So all the SWDs,

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1 you can take -- for all the SWD variables, you
 2 can take the difference and it's just a straight
 3 point difference in what you expect their score
 4 to be.
 5 MS. MARSALA: How come SWD 7 goes from a
 6 negative to a positive?
 7 DR. COHEN: SWD 7?
 8 MS. MARSALA: Everything else stays the
 9 same.
 10 DR. COHEN: This one is barely significant
 11 in a very large sample. Probably the other
 12 things that are highly correlated to this, I
 13 would bet that this is correlated with
 14 attendance, that students with emotional
 15 behavioral disorders are probably not attending.
 16 I don't know that because I didn't look at the
 17 data.
 18 MS. MARSALA: It's the next one.
 19 DR. COHEN: Oh, there's --
 20 MS. MARSALA: It's a negative 2.7, the
 21 positive is whatever they're expected to go
 22 higher.
 23 MS. BROWN: On one model they're expected
 24 to go down and --
 25 MS. MARSALA: Right.

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1 DR. COHEN: Yeah, and what that means, and
 2 I can't tell you specifically, that it
 3 correlates with one of these variables that's in
 4 this model and not the other model. It's
 5 correlated with that. So something else here is
 6 explaining that effect, actually over-explaining
 7 that effect and having it turn around.
 8 MS. MARSALA: So they are in school more --
 9 DR. COHEN: Maybe they are in school more,
 10 maybe they're in smaller classes.
 11 MR. LeTELLIER: So kids with emotional
 12 problems are going to score 2.82 points higher?
 13 DR. COHEN: Okay, I'm sorry. I read the
 14 wrong line.
 15 MR. LeTELLIER: No, no, that's the one she
 16 was --
 17 DR. COHEN: Yes, but it's not yellow. We
 18 hadn't highlighted it because that one's not
 19 statistically significant. It might be good to
 20 chance.
 21 MR. LeTELLIER: Okay, let's look at SW-13
 22 and SW-14. Go to the second -- yeah. That's
 23 negative 5.36 that's highlighted. The one
 24 underneath it is negative 8.36 which is a
 25 greater point difference just in simple terms.

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1 That's not highlighted. So I think the point
 2 system is not clear in my head anyway. I don't
 3 know.
 4 DR. HOVANETZ: Jon, just to be clear, these
 5 are developmental scales, those points. So
 6 think about it; we're talking about a
 7 developmental scale for the FCAT which is 0 to
 8 3,000; and not putting this necessarily in the
 9 context of school level accountability, but I'm
 10 putting it in the context of school level
 11 accountability. When you're looking at a
 12 student in reading going from grade 3 to grade
 13 4, the expectations in reading is that they
 14 learn 280-some points in order to make a year's
 15 worth of progress. So when we're talking about
 16 two points on the developmental scale score for
 17 a specific learning disabled student, the swing
 18 of four points on a 3,000 point scale or when we
 19 talk about a year's worth of knowledge and a
 20 year's worth of time for school accountability
 21 purposes, the minimum expectation is 77 points
 22 and that's 9 to 10. So the two points from the
 23 policy perspective is not huge movement on that
 24 developmental scale. So keep that kind of as
 25 your context that, yes, they are specifically

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1 but the rest are pretty decent significant
 2 effects. Remember, we're dealing with a very
 3 large sample here.
 4 MR. TOMEI: But for some of those
 5 individual categories, you may not be dealing
 6 with a very large sample.
 7 DR. COHEN: That's right, that's right.
 8 For some of the individual categories you may
 9 have very few kids, particularly the multiple
 10 dual --
 11 MR. TOMEI: Right, which is why you see
 12 large numbers up there that aren't statistically
 13 significant in a small --
 14 DR. DORAN: But standard error --
 15 MR. TOMEI: So my next question, we're
 16 actually looking at anticipated variances in the
 17 outcomes. Does that equate to an effect size
 18 for all intents and purposes or would that be --
 19 DR. DORAN: Yes, it's a natural effect,
 20 it's an effect on the scale that you're
 21 interested in seeing. So for example, I'd like
 22 to talk about these things call effect sizes,
 23 and an effect size is sort of a metric that we
 24 can use to make a judgment on. That's what
 25 Lance is talking about here.

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1 significant, but what does that mean on a 3,000
 2 point scale.
 3 DR. COHEN: Pam?
 4 MS. STEWART: Just so I'm clear on this,
 5 when we looked at, for instance, the other
 6 health impaired that has a negative 5.36 on the
 7 Model 3C, that would indicate that their
 8 extensive DSS was 5 points lower than other
 9 students in that same range of prior year FCAT
 10 scores?
 11 DR. COHEN: Yes.
 12 MS. STEWART: Not just overall everybody,
 13 but as you look at comparison with other --
 14 DR. COHEN: Right, it compares kids by the
 15 same prior year's score, the same ELL, the same
 16 attendance. Everything else being equal, maybe
 17 five points lower.
 18 MS. STEWART: Right.
 19 MR. TOMEI: Just a minor point. What was
 20 your P-value calculated?

21 DR. COHEN: I don't know offhand. I can
 22 get them for you. We took just a little over
 23 the 0.05. We took two standard errors out and
 24 highlighted it yellow. There were a couple
 25 among the SWD things that were only marginal,

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1 Here we have a natural effect size. We
 2 don't need to convert it to anything because the
 3 effect is a 13.7 difference, and so if we
 4 converted it to a standardized effect it would
 5 be interpretable to you and to Ronda, but here
 6 it's a natural effect on the scale of
 7 measurement.

8 MR. TOMEI: The reason I ask that question
 9 is because of the earlier comment. If you're
 10 looking at a 3,000 point scale and you see a
 11 plus or minus two potential on two different
 12 models for specific learning disabilities,
 13 although it's statistically significant because
 14 that's probably a large end population across
 15 the entire state, when you're looking at an
 16 effect size of about 2 on a scale of 3,000, you
 17 have to wonder how useful is that regardless of
 18 whether or not it's statistically significant.

19 DR. DORAN: There's practical significance
 20 and there's statistical significance, and
 21 they're not one in the same.

22 I am going to go to the next slide and get
 23 you through the last piece of criteria. Is that
 24 okay, Sam? Because there's a long conversation
 25 that this group needs to have without me. The

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1 last thing that we're going to look at for now;
 2 there's a lot more to look at -- there's a lot
 3 more data to look at. We're not going to get
 4 through it today. We're going to look at the
 5 question of whether or not you should include
 6 one or two lags or one or two prior test scores.
 7 So what's the question? Should the
 8 value-added model include one or two prior
 9 achievement test scores for students? Remember,
 10 when we say one or two we're talking about an
 11 independent variable, so if we include two that
 12 means we actually have three test scores: The
 13 dependent variable, the current score, and then
 14 the two prior scores.

15 So we're going to look at the standard
 16 errors again because those statistics are
 17 relevant in helping inform this decision, and
 18 what we're going to look at -- evidence in favor
 19 of a desirable model -- is the same thing in
 20 lower standard error so we can find anything in
 21 terms of precision, and what do we care? Well,
 22 as you bring more information into the
 23 statistical model, you may or you may not do a
 24 better job in forming a more precise teacher
 25 effect. If you bring in more information, but

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1 pronounced in this subject as they are in
 2 reading, but the difference is there. We see
 3 smaller average in standard errors in two lags
 4 than we do with just one.

5 Now if you want to make a more holistic
 6 judgment, you can turn back to the box plots
 7 that we showed you of the standard errors and
 8 you can look at all of them. So we're not
 9 robbing you of that information. But for sake
 10 of making a direct comparison, we choose two
 11 comparable models, comparable, and they're three
 12 levels and some other characteristics and they
 13 differ only in terms of the lags.

14 So what other observations do we make here
 15 that are meaningful? Anything?

16 This is a relatively straightforward
 17 criterion.

18 MR. LeTELLIER: It just looks like there's
 19 less error when you go two years.

20 DR. DORAN: Looks like particularly in
 21 reading the estimates appear to be a bit more
 22 precise relative to what you observed in math.

23 MS. FEILD: The problem is, though, you
 24 have a lot of grade levels that by nature of the
 25 grade level to go back to the reading, you're

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1 it doesn't buy you anything in terms of
 2 precision then we would ask the question why are
 3 we doing it?

4 But if you bring in more information and it
 5 buys you a lot in terms of precision then maybe
 6 it's something that's reasonable to do. Well,
 7 those are the judgments that you'll be looking
 8 at here. This is the question, this is the
 9 statistic and what we're looking for and why you
 10 should care.

11 So here what I've done instead of taking
 12 all of the models, I took the liberty of
 13 choosing two models that were comparable but
 14 different only in terms of the number of lags,
 15 and 3A1 has the one and 3A has both. These are
 16 boxed plots that we looked at at the beginning
 17 of the day of the standard errors. In fact,
 18 these are the exact same if you went back to the
 19 box plot; and if you want to compare it you can
 20 certainly do that, but for here looking at the
 21 comparison, what we see here again that black
 22 dot showing that we have smaller average
 23 standard errors in the model with the two lags
 24 relative to the model with one in reading, and
 25 here's math; the differences are not as

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1 not going to have teachers having that much
 2 data.

3 DR. DORAN: Now suppose this group were to
 4 say we're going to include two lags. That would
 5 not necessarily mean that you would eliminate
 6 estimating value-added effects for fourth grade
 7 teachers because there you'd have to have that
 8 decision that you only use the one lag.

9 MS. FEILD: Right.

10 DR. DORAN: Now in terms of -- let's
 11 explore that further. Suppose you're a fifth
 12 grade teacher and every single kid in your class
 13 has only one prior test score. You still
 14 estimate the model, so I think the policy
 15 decision he is not to always use two lags; it's
 16 use up to two lags where available.

17 MS. FEILD: No, I get that but if you go
 18 back to your reading chart and probably that's
 19 the way it should be. What has to be
 20 communicated to the teachers or the stakeholders
 21 is that there is differentiation on the standard
 22 of error for 4th grade teachers, let's say,
 23 versus 5th grade or higher just because of the
 24 nature of the model. So if you present just to
 25 3A and say we're using two years, but if you

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1 only have we're only going to include one, we
2 have to say, well, by the way, that means your
3 error of measurement is going to be bigger, your
4 standard error.

5 DR. DORAN: So remember this is one factor
6 that plays into the standard error measurement.
7 Teachers in grades 5 and up would have the
8 benefit of having possibly, possibly smaller
9 standard errors because we're using more
10 information, but it's not a guarantee.

11 Teachers in grade 4 can still have small
12 standard errors because there are many factors
13 that are used in terms of creating the standard
14 of error, not only the lag. But they would have
15 the down side of not being that extra
16 information, so that would be something that
17 would -- it's just an artifact that you don't
18 teach testing second grade.

19 MS. FEILD: But that's compounded by what
20 model you choose as to what covariates because
21 if you choose not to use any covariate at all,
22 which would be Model 3A, right, then really the
23 lag of two years versus one is the biggest
24 impact on your score; am I correct?

25 DR. DORAN: I don't remember exactly, but
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1 Well, I'm going to do this. I'm going to
2 show you an observation that you already made
3 and I'm going to toss this over to Sam, and
4 here's where we are tentatively. Well, do we
5 want to take a break?

6 PANEL MEMBERS: Yes.

7 DR. DORAN: All right, we'll take a break.
8 When we come back essentially what we've done
9 now, we've walked multiple criteria across all
10 of the models, but before we get too far along
11 there's more data to look at. Sam's going to
12 facilitate a conversation on given what we've
13 learned so far, what models are attractive,
14 which ones do we maybe want to set aside? Maybe
15 you're not ready to do that yet, but we're at
16 least to a point where we're ready to have that
17 conversation. So I'll leave this microphone
18 here and why don't we come back at twenty till.

19 (Whereupon, a short break was had.)

20 MR. FOERSTER: Ladies and gentlemen, we're
21 going to start talking through where we think
22 we're at, at this point. Before I get there, I
23 wanted to say this morning that I wanted you all
24 to feel comfortable and discussing and asking
25 questions. I think we've covered that bridge;
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1 --

2 MS. FEILD: Yeah, because 3A and 3A1 have
3 no covariates, no SWD, ELL, attendance, gifted.
4 So if we choose Model 3A which has two lags then
5 your statement about there are other factors
6 that influence that 4th grade teacher is not
7 true because we don't have any other factors
8 going into the model --

9 DR. DORAN: No, no. The things that go
10 into playing the standard errors. It's the
11 number of kids in the class, that's always the
12 case, and it's the homogeneity of kids within
13 that class that goes with the standard errors.
14 So there are things --

15 MS. FEILD: Whoa, whoa, whoa, because we're
16 not including homogeneity --

17 DR. DORAN: Homogeneity, not the controlled
18 but just the scores --

19 MS. FEILD: Oh, the scores, okay.

20 DR. DORAN: It can exist even though that
21 control variate is there. So, yes, you're
22 correct. There are differences in the fixed
23 effects that would also help reduce that
24 decision, but even beyond those are other things
25 that will impact the standard errors.

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1 we're in good shape there. I also want to say
2 that it is a distinct honor to be a part of this
3 group. I mean, I am really astonished at the
4 quality of the discussion that has taken place
5 already today and I hope that you guys feel
6 equally gratified.

7 I have every confidence that we have lots
8 of people around the table that see this. The
9 struggle is getting us all to see what one
10 another sees and that has proven to be
11 challenging.

12 Where I think I would like us to go is
13 this: An effective strategy last time was
14 ruling things out so that we can focus on the
15 things that we want to keep in play. That
16 having been said, I don't want to move us down
17 the path any more quickly than you guys are
18 comfortable with. So if you're uncomfortable
19 with the rate at which we're marching down this
20 path, please anybody jump in and say I'd like to
21 talk this one over some more before we put
22 things to a vote and scratch things off the
23 list.

24 That having been said I'm going to throw
25 out where I think the temperature of the room is
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1 with respect to some of these models so that we
2 can get a sense of where to start.

3 Is it fair to say -- I'll start with the
4 easiest one first -- Model 4, the sustained
5 differences model that has the lowest amount of
6 precision, and the least number of variables
7 folded into it. This doesn't appear to be where
8 any of us wants to go. Is that a fair
9 assumption? So could we put that one to a vote
10 that the committee would like to cease
11 consideration of Model 4, the sustained
12 differences model.

13 MS. FEILD: So moved.

14 MR. LeTELLIER: Second.

15 MR. FOERSTER: I love it. Thank you. All
16 in favor?

17 DR. HOVANETZ: Remember hold your hand up.

18 MR. FOERSTER: Yeah, we've got to get the
19 camera around.

20 Okay. Thank you. We'll scratch that one
21 off the list.

22 Where can we go next? The one lag models.
23 Are we all comfortable that we want to put in
24 two lags and do we all understand that we're not
25 saying that we're going to include only data for
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1 Okay. So can I have a motion that we'll
2 cease to consider Model 1A?

3 MR. TOMEI: So moved.

4 MR. LeTELLIER: Second.

5 MR. FOERSTER: All in favor, raise their
6 hand? Okay. Thank you very much.

7 That leaves us with the three variants of
8 Model 3, one of which we include no additional
9 covariates, one in which we include just the
10 basics which would be ELL, SWD, gifted, and
11 attendance, and then the kitchen sink variety.
12 I think again given the discussion that we've
13 had to this point that we're all in favor of
14 including additional covariates, maybe lots of
15 them, which would mean that Model 3A is not
16 something we want to consider any further. Is
17 that where we're at?

18 PANEL MEMBERS: Yes.

19 MR. FOERSTER: So can I have a motion that
20 we -- the committee wishes to cease
21 consideration of Model 3A?

22 MS. BROWN: So moved.

23 MR. LeTELLIER: Second.

24 MR. FOERSTER: All in favor? Thanks.

25 Okay. We're honing in, I think. Most of
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1 which we have two scores, but when we have that
2 data we're going to use two scores? When we
3 have only one, we'll use it. So that would mean
4 that what we would --

5 MS. FEILD: So moved.

6 MR. FOERSTER: Yeah, don't "so moved" me.
7 Give me a motion. Which ones have one lags?

8 PANEL MEMBERS: One and 3A1.

9 MR. FOERSTER: Okay. So the motion is that
10 we will cease consideration of Model 1 and Model
11 3A1, is that right?

12 MS. FEILD: Yes.

13 MR. FOERSTER: Second.

14 MR. TOMEI: Second.

15 MR. FOERSTER: All in favor? Oh, this is
16 fun. Thank you very much.

17 Okay. That leaves us with Model 1A which
18 does not include school effect and variance of
19 Model 3 which do include school effect. I think
20 where we're at after much discussion on school
21 effect, and I don't think we're done with that
22 discussion, but we all agree that it matters and
23 we do want it to be taken into account somehow.
24 The how is what remains to be determined. Is
25 that where everybody's at?

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1 us feel like we want to factor in some of the
2 additional covariates beyond ELL, SWD, gifted,
3 and attendance, and we need to discuss which
4 ones and how and why and what the implications
5 of that are, but we don't really want to be
6 considering some aspect of the kitchen sink
7 model, which is 3C. Is that a fair statement?

8 PANEL MEMBERS: Yes.

9 MR. FOERSTER: Okay, then I need a motion
10 that we wish to cease considering Model 3B.

11 MS. NOYA: So moved.

12 MR. LeTELLIER: Second.

13 MR. FOERSTER: All in favor? Thank you.
14 Okay, time to go home.

15 Model 3C. We stopped when we were looking
16 at the list and I'm hoping we can get the slide
17 back up so everybody can look at it. The list
18 of covariates, some of which were found to be
19 statistically significant, some of which were
20 found to be statistically not significant; and I
21 think we can pick up discussion with which of
22 those covariates we want to be included; and I'm
23 going to do my best here to talk through some of
24 the factors that should be taken into
25 consideration when we're talking about that.

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1 With respect to the factors that are
 2 statistically insignificant, that means that
 3 they do not help in a predictive capacity at
 4 all, and we know that for sure because we looked
 5 at all the data district-wide, and there's no
 6 evidence to suggest that incorporating those
 7 things give us any ability to predict student
 8 outcomes any more accurately than not including
 9 them. That having been said, it's hard for me
 10 to imagine a scenario where we would to be
 11 talking to people about why those things are
 12 still in there because AIR has done the work.
 13 We can say for sure it'll matter. That's my
 14 opinion.

15 The counter-point could be that keeping
 16 them in does no harm and it gives us the
 17 opportunity to explain to teachers who might be
 18 impacted by one of these categories -- say,
 19 hearing impaired, visually impaired,
 20 emotionally, behavioral, these factors that do
 21 not have statistical significance -- it may be
 22 politically useful to say that those have been
 23 left in the model.

24 DR. COHEN: I may have left a slightly
 25 wrong impression. This is a general pattern,
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1 MR. FOERSTER: Moved and seconded. All
 2 those in favor of keeping all of them?

3 MR. TOMEI: Do we discuss this before
 4 taking a final vote?

5 MR. FOERSTER: Absolutely, and thank you
 6 for jumping in.

7 MR. TOMEI: Pros and cons say every side of
 8 this debate, okay. The question I would ask is
 9 if we choose to keep this in and we know that
 10 that's an insignificant number, how are we going
 11 to put this in the model if we leave it in the
 12 model? Are we going to apply that effect size,
 13 which we know is probably random?

14 MR. FOERSTER: That's a great point. I
 15 think what the implication is that it could do
 16 more harm than good by leaving it in, right?

17 MR. TOMEI: Especially if the effect size
 18 is rather large, look at the dual sensory
 19 impaired. Huge effect size. If we factor that
 20 in to an expectation for a given student, one we
 21 know that statistically that could have been
 22 just a random variance and not really
 23 attributable to that characteristic, then we're
 24 potentially doing more harm by leaving it in the
 25 model than good. So the question becomes how do
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1 but remember we estimated 112 different models
 2 or something like that. In some of them, some
 3 of the particularly SWD variables, some of them
 4 pop up as significant in other grades or other
 5 subjects. I think that's what it's based on,
 6 not a grade 7 math.

7 MR. FOERSTER: That's an important point.

8 DR. COHEN: I mean, it's not all that
 9 difficult but yes, this is a --

10 PANEL MEMBERS: (Laughing, talking,
 11 over-speaking.)

12 DR. COHEN: Sam.

13 MR. FOERSTER: Yes, Jon?

14 MR. LeTELLIER: With the knowledge that we
 15 just had, let's look at number SWD 12, traumatic
 16 brain injury, and let's say that some of those
 17 other grades -- that there was a significant
 18 number. How would we if we decide to take out
 19 something like that, how would we explain that
 20 we're going to allow for the other ones, but if
 21 your son just had a traumatic brain injury that
 22 it's not statistically significant?

23 MS. BROWN: Or to the teacher. I move that
 24 we include them all.

25 PANEL MEMBERS: Second.
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1 we factor these in, particularly if we keep in
 2 things that have proven to be statistically
 3 insignificant?

4 DR. COHEN: But we only have that for this
 5 grade. That's the problem, what you just said.

6 MR. TOMEI: We can fix that, though, Jon.

7 DR. COHEN: We have all the data here, we
 8 still don't have it for each and every grade.

9 Let me just make the case of a dual sensory
 10 impaired, just as an example. The most likely
 11 value for that typical value of the population
 12 is that number. So the chance is greater than
 13 about a 5% chance that could be due to chance.

14 Let's look at what statistical significance
 15 means. It is still more likely than not that
 16 that is an effect, that there's a positive --
 17 I'm sorry -- a negative effect there.

18 So I don't even know how many dual sensory
 19 impaired students have it in the state. Did
 20 anybody say that?

21 PANEL MEMBER: Very small.

22 MR. TOMEI: Very minimal.

23 MS. WESTPHAL: But there's a potential that
 24 the reason if I'm understand this why it's not
 25 significant is because you only pooled -- I

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1 mean, it's a low incident.

2 MS. BROWN: But in a lot of those instances
3 like emotional behavior -- I just picked one.
4 Okay, let's take emotional behavior now. It's
5 not showing a significant -- it's not yellow,
6 but there's a chance that there's a teacher that
7 has six kids in her classroom and all six of
8 those kids are EBD.

9 DR. COHEN: Even if it is the best estimate
10 of how much impact it has is only a point or two
11 on the scale; within 7th grade the scale ranges
12 hundreds of points. I think the typical growth
13 in the 8th grade is on the order of 250 points,
14 not the exact number but that's the right
15 magnitude. On average, there's about a 1 or 2
16 point difference among these kids.

17 MS. WESTPHAL: I'm guessing because you
18 pulled math we would see different numbers for
19 reading.

20 DR. COHEN: I can -- hold that --

21 MS. WESTPHAL: But my point is, okay, let's
22 just take that out of it and say there is one
23 that's more significant, dual sensory impaired.
24 Maybe those kids are concentrated at the school
25 for the deaf, for the blind, for example. There

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1 used.

2 MS. WESTPHAL: If we don't put that in
3 there then her students are thrown into the
4 general population and she is going to look like
5 she's not as effective. -- am I -- getting
6 that?

7 MR. TOMEI: I just want to say that
8 actually I'm in favor of keeping all the
9 variables in, but I think we need to be
10 cautious. What we're not looking at here -- we
11 know the ones that are not significant were less
12 than 95% certain, but what we don't know is, was
13 it 94% or was it 55% for some of these
14 variables, but the data exists. So there's more
15 work to be done to figure out how do we factor
16 these variables properly and effectively and
17 appropriately into the model if we keep them
18 all? So I thought we should have that
19 discussion before we --

20 MR. FOERSTER: I am so glad that you pulled
21 the reins. I think it's fair to say that we
22 have already narrowed things down a lot. I
23 mean, we're down to one model and we're talking
24 about which variables do we want to include and
25 not include, and my understanding from Harold

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1 could be a teacher who only has those students,
2 so let's say she has four students in her class.
3 All four of her students are dual sensory and
4 for her or him it's going to make a big
5 difference if we don't. Otherwise, would we not
6 be throwing them into the general population?

7 DR. COHEN: Otherwise we would be throwing
8 them into the general population. But that is
9 not statistically significant. Really, what
10 that means is that it says we're not 95% certain
11 that this is different than zero, right? But in
12 the data we have in this sample, the average
13 score is 121 points less than you would expect
14 of a very similar student who didn't have the
15 same disability.

16 MS. WESTPHAL: So worst case scenario for
17 that teacher, her scores come back and the
18 statistician says, you know what? There's not
19 enough data; we don't have a big enough
20 population in your room to say whether you're
21 highly effective, not effective; so we've got to
22 put you right here and now your evaluation is
23 going to take over the bigger percentage piece.

24 MS. ACOSTA: The business rule can control
25 whether or not that particular piece of data is

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1 and Jon and Christy was that was essentially
2 what we needed to try to get to happen this
3 afternoon. I'm wondering if what we do instead
4 of trying to nail this today since it is late in
5 the day, I think we're tired, and I think we
6 would all benefit perhaps with some reflection
7 and some time to think tonight.

8 What do you guys think about handing it
9 back to AIR and let's keep working through the
10 agenda that they have prescribed for us, and we
11 will take this issue up tomorrow as we put a
12 finer point on what exactly we'd like to see in
13 the model?

14 MR. LeTELLIER: If we do that, I think
15 that's a great idea. Two things, one can we
16 have them do some of that data that we were
17 looking at --

18 MR. FOERSTER: For other grades and
19 subjects?

20 MR. LeTELLIER: Yeah, and then the other
21 thing is what Lance was saying; are we able to
22 data-wise statistically make it so that we can
23 include if we want to just include everything,
24 include it and come up with a way to have the
25 data be useful in a model or is it going to from

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1 what you're saying, are there some things if we
2 included it no matter what we did, it would
3 negatively affect things? Because just for
4 myself as I think about it tonight, I just want
5 to know what to kind of have ruminant around in
6 my head in thinking.

7 MS. FEILD: I also want to know as I'm
8 looking at these things, it's not 20 indicators
9 really. I'm looking at them under categories,
10 and are we talking about fine-picking and saying
11 that we're going to go in and in terms of the
12 SWD we're not going to include the dual sensory
13 and we're not going to include visual, but we'll
14 include the others. I mean, are we even going
15 to get to that granularity?

16 Do we want to do that or do we want to look
17 at it as an overall; if this child is SWD, some
18 of them maybe, you know, have positive/negative
19 depending by different grade levels, so should
20 we be thinking about it as a whole or are we
21 going to sit here and say, okay, well, the dual
22 sensory in grade 3, 5, and 9, it was -- it
23 showed an effect, but in the other grades it
24 didn't, so I'm not sure we want to do that. I
25 just want us to think about that because I would

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1 among them.

2 Some of the things like class homogeneity,
3 which is significant in one of the models; it's
4 significant here and there, but it's a tiny
5 effect. You need a class that had -- if you had
6 a class that had a 100-point difference between
7 the 25th percentile and the 75th percentile, you
8 would have a 1 point difference. If you had a
9 four point difference, you need basically two
10 years of growth within one class. A very
11 diverse class and that would still only count
12 for four points.

13 So that small, it's kind of an unusual
14 measure. You might think about whether you want
15 to keep that one.

16 MR. LeTELLIER: That was Sam's question.
17 Was there any harm if we keep them all?

18 DR. COHEN: There is no harm in keeping
19 them unless they're correlated with other things
20 that you're keeping in there in terms of the
21 ultimate estimated teacher effect and the
22 aggregate shouldn't make any difference for one
23 or two teachers, for some small number of
24 teachers because two things are correlated.
25 There's a trade-off in what the effect is

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1 think about it as kind of SWD is a whole, class
2 size is a whole, modal age is a whole, mobility
3 is a whole. To me there --

4 MR. FOERSTER: Maybe there would be some --

5 MS. FEILD: To me, it would be a yes or no
6 for the category.

7 MR. FOERSTER: That point is well taken. I
8 mean, we would have to be doing lots of sifting
9 through grades and subjects and it makes it
10 harder to explain and impossible to remember.

11 Harold or Jon, can you present a
12 counter-argument for keeping all of the
13 variables in the model? And why wouldn't we do
14 that.

15 DR. COHEN: No, there's not a reason to
16 keep all of the SWD variables as a group. Some
17 of them are significant. If we start breaking
18 them apart, you do wind up with an explanation
19 problem. The teachers who have the disability,
20 whatever it is, you kick them out; you have to
21 have different models for different grades
22 subject and then that will change your year to
23 get the data each year. Particular ones that
24 pop up for significant ones may be different. I
25 think it would be a headache to pick and choose

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1 attributed to.

2 If most of the kids who have specific
3 learning disability are in very homogenous
4 classes, they tend to be other kids who are
5 challenging in those classes, the exact effect
6 of either one of those variables is going to be
7 trading off. Sometimes one will be bigger,
8 sometimes the other will be bigger, especially
9 since there's not enough information in the
10 data. So those correlations are the only things
11 that are set for now.

12 MS. BOURN: Harold, can you explain how the
13 attendance is calculated one more time?

14 DR. BOURN: The attendance was something
15 that was in the data, and that was the number of
16 days a student was actually enrolled in the
17 school.

18 MS. BOURN: So interpret the effect size
19 for me.

20 DR. DORAN: So what this is saying is for
21 every additional day that a student was in the
22 school, they have a --

23 MS. BOURN: A 0.16.

24 DR. DORAN: -- they would have a 0.18 or a
25 0.18 difference in their expected scale for each

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1 day.

2 MS. KEARSCHNER: I don't remember, what's
3 the difference between class 1 and class 2 and
4 class 3 through 6?

5 DR. DORAN: This is the number of classes
6 the student was enrolled in for the same
7 courses. What's the definition --

8 MS. KEARSCHNER: Subjects.

9 DR. DORAN: The same subjects? There are
10 some students who are associated with multiple
11 classes for the same subject.

12 MR. LeTELLIER: Could you put a slide up
13 tomorrow because we're not going to vote on this
14 today and we would be able to think about that?

15 That might in parentheses just have those little
16 things so that as we're looking at it, that
17 would be easier, I think, for us to say that's
18 based on this, that's based on this.

19 DR. DORAN: -- so it's -- a little hard to
20 assemble -

21 DR. HOVANETZ: It goes back to the finding
22 of the variable that we did this morning and how
23 we defined it, whether it was a cognitive
24 variable saying if this student has this
25 characteristic their expectation is this much

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1 you may or may not want to include that in the
2 model. The problematic thing being that you
3 have just established different expectations for
4 kids. While that's helpful from the teacher
5 evaluation standpoint and seems to level the
6 field, it's problematic in that you have
7 different expectations for kids. I just want to
8 bring that up because it was a point of lots of
9 conversation last time and I think we should be
10 making these decisions with that in mind. Any
11 thoughts on that?

12 DR. DORAN: Sam, it's actually where we're
13 going to next. We're going to show the
14 consequences on the different expectations for
15 different groups of kids, not for every single
16 one of these particular categories. That's
17 actually where we're going with the data.

18 MR. FOERSTER: Okay. Before I hand it back
19 over to you, committee, AIR is going to have one
20 night to do some additional materials
21 preparation, analysis, whatever. Can you or do
22 you have any specific requests that you would
23 like to see prepared for tomorrow? Ms. Bourn?

24 MS. BOURN: I think this goes back to the
25 huge hour-plus long discussion, and if I'm

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1 different versus the continuous variables that
2 we talked about continuous variables being
3 homogeneity, age, attendance where each
4 incremental unit is associated with each
5 incremental DSS point difference. So an
6 increase in one day of attendance equates to an
7 increase of an expectation of a 0.16.

8 MR. TOMEI: I get that for the attendance
9 points now. The other ones?

10 DR. HOVANETZ: So for mobility for each
11 additional school transition, the expectation
12 for their growth is decreased by five points.
13 So the continuous variables is each increment
14 the variable moves, the DS doesn't impact it by
15 the amount that you see up there or the
16 dichotomous variable which is basically a
17 majority of the variable that we talked about;
18 it's just one single expectation, if the student
19 has this characteristic or trait, their
20 expectation is older by that many.

21 MR. FOERSTER: I guess we should point out,
22 also, that there is this policy implication that
23 we've talked a good bit about last time. Just
24 because you see that a characteristic can be
25 argued to weigh in on expected student growth,

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1 understanding what I think most of us are
2 struggling with, it's going back to the growth
3 piece; if I'm a teacher in school A and school B
4 and I establish the same amount of growth for my
5 students in both schools, and one's a high
6 performing school and one's a low performing
7 school, what does that do to how I look?

8 MR. TOMEI: What's the implication?

9 MR. FOERSTER: In a variety of scenarios,
10 I'm assuming, with one extreme being there is no
11 school effect considered and the other extreme
12 school effect is completely attributed to the
13 school and perhaps some --

14 DR. COHEN: I'm working on a little
15 spreadsheet that shows some examples of that; I
16 should have that in an hour.

17 MR. FOERSTER: Perfect. Thank you, Jon.

18 Are there any other specifics that you guys
19 would like to see prepared to inform tomorrow's
20 discussion about how we're going to finalize a
21 recommendation?

22 MS. BROWN: Did we ask AIR to do certain
23 districts? Is that already on the agenda to be
24 done?

25 MR. FOERSTER: Well, I think Juan made a
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1 great point there and I'm going to do my best to
2 explain why that was problematic.

3 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)

4 DR. COHEN: What I can do -- I have all the
5 grade 7 data, for example, on my laptop and it's
6 very easy to run the average teacher effect in
7 each subject by district, and you guys can look
8 through your own districts and say I like this
9 model, I don't like that model because it made
10 me look bad. Oh, doesn't it.

11 MR. LeTELLIER: I think there is some use
12 to that and you've got to realize not all 67
13 counties are represented here, so it's not just
14 for the county. It's just so much as what some
15 of us were discussing, are there any variables
16 that in some county might have heavier weight
17 than another, that in the average across the
18 state --

19 DR. COHEN: No, that we can do right now is
20 run 67 different --

21 MR. LeTELLIER: No, no, I'm not saying to
22 run 67 counties. Their whole thing was whether
23 or not there might be a county that it will be
24 impacted upon more, and remember we had
25 discussed running two or three counties just to

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1 each -- each county -- yes, everybody would be
2 held to the same standard; it's just now those
3 counties have that variable in there to --
4 MS. BOURN: Because we decided to leave it
5 in.

6 MS. FEILD: We already picked 3C. If we
7 already picked 3C the question is for me, what
8 additional data do we need to know about to make
9 further refinements on Model 3C, right?

10 MR. LeTELLIER: That's exactly it.

11 MS. FEILD: Right? Because we've already
12 picked 3C. All this stuff, school effects, no
13 school effects. So --

14 MR. LeTELLIER: I was just confused when he
15 was talking about you don't want to include
16 homogeneity and things like that and I wanted to
17 make sure we didn't go back to there where we
18 were taking out stuff and then there's where we
19 would need to run that data to see. If we're
20 going to --

21 MS. FEILD: That's what I say. What do we
22 need to look at in 3C particular to make the
23 final recommendation? As for example, if we
24 already include school effects which 3C does
25 have, how do we want to weight it? Do we want

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1 see.

2 DR. COHEN: We talked about that, but let's
3 say we find there is a strong negative
4 co-efficient for students with emotional
5 behavioral disorders in one county. Everyone
6 else is zero or positive, this one county is
7 negative. Do we then hold that county to a
8 different standard and say, okay, we expect
9 lower growth from you?

10 MR. LeTELLIER: No, it's just we're
11 including as a variable across the -- we're
12 including as a variable across the state and
13 what we had talked about earlier unless I
14 misunderstand this is that if there -- there may
15 be in some instances -- maybe ELL is a good
16 example where a specific county, it would impact
17 them more. If the other counties, it doesn't
18 matter if it you put it in or don't, it's
19 negligible. But for two or three counties it's
20 huge and it's real and it's statistically real
21 for those counties. That's what we're --

22 MS. BOURN: Then we know that for that
23 model we should keep it in, in order to have
24 fairness across the board.

25 MR. LeTELLIER: Exactly, yes. Not that
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1 to weight it 10%, 40%? That may differ by
2 district, right, and including the variables
3 you're talking about. If there is
4 differentiation by grade, do we want to throw
5 out SWD across the Board? Maybe not, I don't
6 know.

7 MS. KEARSCHNER: Do we want to look at SWD
8 in grades other than 7 math, which is what this
9 is?

10 MS. FEILD: I'd like to see 4th or 5th
11 grade reading.

12 MR. FOERSTER: I'm sure we can; the
13 question is, is it going to change the decision
14 because it seems like the committee is in favor
15 of keeping all of those in there. We haven't
16 gotten the counter-argument for why that would
17 be a bad thing in any way, and --

18 MS. BROWN: I'm sorry; I thought you said
19 you just threw it out on the table. Would it
20 lower our expectations if we did that? Whatever
21 you said right before the --

22 MR. FOERSTER: You want to see what the
23 Actual numbers are, I got you, okay. So
24 we're back to maybe we don't want to include SWD
25 because there is this other thing to consider

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1 that we're creating different expectations.

2 MR. TOMEI: No, no, no.

3 MR. COPA: Let me just add one thing that
4 might be helpful. Since the committee has
5 narrowed it down basically to one model, I mean,
6 we went through a whole bunch of slides. They
7 basically estimated 112 models and they were
8 just presenting grade 7 math and reading as an
9 example just based on space. But now since
10 we're down to one model, AIR can share all 14
11 grade and subject combinations for that one
12 model so you can see the results for 4th grade,
13 5th grade, reading, math, et cetera.

14 MR. TOMEI: It might also be helpful, too,
15 rather than us trying to amalgamate what we're
16 looking at across 14 models, if we could see
17 perhaps a list of any of these variables that
18 were bound to be not significant for either
19 subject in any grade level and what the greatest
20 effect size was for those that were
21 insignificant across all grades in both
22 subjects, is that doable?

23 DR. COHEN: It probably is, but I'm going
24 to need to write that down. I'm going to fill
25 up a notepad to write that down. Okay.

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1 some of the implications of that --

2 MS. FEILD: So if we're not comfortable,
3 what happens?

4 DR. COHEN: Then we circle back and Sam has
5 a hard job. We have to go back --

6 MR. FOERSTER: Yeah, this isn't in concrete
7 but it seems like everybody was pretty -- we
8 were going to 3C. I mean, we were heading that
9 way, so maybe we keep marching down that path
10 and see problems we'll back up.

11 DR. DORAN: So sort of big picture of where
12 we are, you know, is we spent a tremendous
13 amount of time this morning evaluating the
14 models against some criteria, and you've come to
15 at least what's a tentative conclusion about
16 which of the models you favor more than others.

17 But now what we want to do is start showing
18 you some of the impact data. What's the impact
19 on these model decision on expectations? What's
20 the correlation of these with teacher with
21 characteristics or student characteristics and
22 so forth? Now you can make decisions about I
23 even like this model more or now I have concerns
24 about this decision, and I want to come back and
25 revisit some of those issues.

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1 MR. TOMEI: I'm just wondering if we have
2 any variables that prove to be insignificant for
3 both subjects in all grades and then what was
4 the greatest effect size for those, any one,
5 just the single greatest effect size because
6 that may tell us if there are any variables that
7 really might just be worth not putting in the
8 model that summary.

9 MS. FEILD: So my question is if we picked
10 the model we have to decide if we want to
11 include some of the covariates, right? What
12 other decisions is AIR going to need from us by
13 the end of the day tomorrow?

14 PANEL MEMBER: Percent.

15 MS. FEILD: A percent of what school
16 effect, but what else because I'm not sure that
17 there's other pieces that we haven't even
18 discussed --

19 DR. COHEN: We want to show you some impact
20 data. What does this model choice say about
21 expectations for students with different
22 characteristics, and which groups of teachers
23 seem to do better or worse under this model, so
24 that you can take a look at the impact of your
25 decision and make sure you're comfortable with

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1 MR. TOMEI: Since I was the guilty party
2 that disrupted the vote, I just want to remind
3 Sam that we actually had a motion and a second,
4 and we were in the middle of a vote and we
5 probably need to either finish that vote or have
6 that motion retracted and tabled until --

7 DR. HOVANETZ: We don't need to retract a
8 motion to table.

9 MR. TOMEI: Or table it. We need to do
10 something probably to finish up the vote that I
11 disrupted since I was guilty of doing that.

12 MR. FOERSTER: What's the point of order,
13 Linda?

14 MS. KEARSCHNER: To table.

15 MR. TOMEI: So we need a motion to table.
16 And what was the motion at hand.

17 PANEL MEMBERS: (Over-speaking.)

18 MR. FOERSTER: So I need a motion to table
19 the motion to include all covariates in Model
20 3C.

21 MS. KEARSCHNER: You're tabling discussion
22 to bring it back for a vote later.

23 MS. FEILD: So we can then table our
24 discussion for tomorrow, so we can table the
25 discussion for tomorrow's meeting.

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1 MR. FOERSTER: Do I have a second?
 2 PANEL MEMBER: Second.
 3 MR. FOERSTER: All those in favor of
 4 tabling discussion on including covariates for
 5 3C? All in favor? Okay. Thank you.
 6 DR. DORAN: We have a come a long way and
 7 this is a lot of information. This was a lot of
 8 work and I think evaluating these models against
 9 these criteria was just a lot to get through.
 10 We still have more, more data, but I don't want
 11 to overwhelm everybody. It's towards the end of
 12 the day.
 13 Why don't I do this? Why don't I present
 14 some additional slides, just to move forward a
 15 little bit but not too aggressively then try and
 16 cover too much in the next half-hour. Then
 17 we'll be at a little slower pace because it's
 18 toward the end of the day and we'll get a sense
 19 of how everyone is in the room.
 20 One of the things that Sam mentioned just
 21 now is we want to give you all of the
 22 information that you need so that by the end of
 23 the day tomorrow when you make that decision or
 24 that recommendation to go towards the
 25 commissioner, you vote as though you were fairly

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1 given an opportunity to think about this, the
 2 consequences; you were given all of the
 3 information so that to the degree that we can do
 4 stuff tonight reliably and efficiently, we want
 5 to make sure that you have that information.
 6 That was sort of the goal of where we wanted to
 7 be today. So if you need anything, ask. We've
 8 got computers.
 9 Let's look at a couple of other things.
 10 We're going to talk about the expectations.
 11 Recall we talked a little bit earlier about what
 12 these growth expectations are and I shared with
 13 you earlier that we're going to talk about -- go
 14 ahead.
 15 DR. HOVANETZ: We're actually going to see
 16 if we any suspend this discussion quick so we
 17 can have Jon present the school effects
 18 conversation model, and this is a big, huge,
 19 weighty discussion that might be best served for
 20 us to start tomorrow rather than after 4:00
 21 today, just because you've made a lot of
 22 progress and decisions and have a lot to chew
 23 on, we want to show the school effect impact
 24 stuff and then --
 25 MR. COPA: Let me offer option CA 2, 3, 4.

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1 We've done a lot today. We've made some very
 2 important decisions. I leave it to the
 3 committee. We can keep going till 5:00 or we
 4 can stop now and reconvene tomorrow morning.
 5 MS. BROWN: Can I ask a question? What's
 6 on the agenda for tomorrow because I need to
 7 know what we're adding to tomorrow to make sure
 8 so I can make that connection.
 9 DR. HOVANETZ: The only thing, if you want
 10 to flip through the power point presentation is
 11 just the impact of the variable that we're
 12 talking about right now. We're picking up on
 13 the variable discussion and sharing more
 14 information. We'll have you fill out an
 15 evaluation before you leave, you can write down
 16 your specific questions that you had just like
 17 we did last time, we'll review those tonight,
 18 and we'll start in the morning responding to all
 19 of the questions that you all are leaving here
 20 with today. We'll do a recap of this day's
 21 discussion, so we'll just spend the first hour
 22 recapping and answer questions; and then
 23 literally just bagging it right back into where
 24 we are. So the stimulation on the school effect
 25 and how that impacted individual teachers under

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1 the model.
 2 Harold will go through the rest of the
 3 slides which you can take a look at tonight if
 4 you want to go ahead and preview what we're
 5 going to be looking at tomorrow, but it really
 6 is diving into the decisions of now that we're
 7 looking at variance Model 3C here's the impact
 8 of this data that we run and here's where the
 9 decision points are, so now that you've narrowed
 10 it down to Model 3C it's presenting all the
 11 information by grade and by subject for each of
 12 the covariates that you all had asked us to take
 13 a look at. So it's presenting that information
 14 and starting to make those decisions.
 15 I think without all of that comprehensive
 16 information in front of you, it might be more
 17 difficult to have a conversation in the abstract
 18 rather than looking at all grades, both
 19 subjects, at the same time and just getting the
 20 information out there to inform the discussion
 21 that way.
 22 So we'll take 15 minutes. You can complete
 23 the evaluation, things that are still burning
 24 questions you'll be able to jot down. We'll
 25 answer those tonight and start the presentation

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1 tomorrow just recapping what we talked about
2 today and answer any unresolved questions that
3 you have.

4 MR. FOERSTER: Okay. Are you all
5 comfortable with Christy's plan?

6 MS. NOYA: Yes, I am.

7 DR. HOVANETZ: Okay. Don't go anywhere.

8 * * * * *

9 (Whereupon, this concludes Day 1 of the
10 meeting.)

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CERTIFICATE

3 THE STATE OF FLORIDA)
4 COUNTY OF WAKULLA)

6 I, Suzette A. Bragg, Court Reporter and
7 Notary Public, State of Florida at Large,
8 DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above-entitled
9 and numbered cause was heard as herein above set
10 out; that I was authorized to and did transcribe the
11 proceedings of said matter, and that the foregoing
12 and annexed pages, numbered 1 through 304,
13 inclusive, comprise a true and correct transcription
14 of the proceedings in said cause.

15 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not related to
16 or employed by any of the parties or their counsel,
17 nor have I any financial interest in the outcome of
18 this action.

19 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
20 subscribed my name and affixed my seal, this 13th
21 day of June, 2011.

23 _____
SUZETTE A. BRAGG, Notary Public
24 State of Florida at Large
My Commission Expires: 2/21/2013

25
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