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2                   DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
3                   AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

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

7                   University of Central Florida  
8                   Teaching Academy Building  
9                   Orlando, Florida

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15

16                   DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

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

19                   AIR MEMBERS PRESENT:

20                   JON COHEN, Ph.D., Executive Vice-President  
21                   HAROLD DORAN, Ed.D., AIR, Principal Research Scientist  
22                   CHRISTY HOVANETZ  
23                   MARY ANN LEMKE  
24  
25

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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 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 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 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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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<p><b>0</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 260:7</p> <p><b>0.05</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 261:23</p> <p><b>0.16</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 287:23, 289:7</p> <p><b>0.18</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 287:24, 287:25</p> <p><b>0.8</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 256:13</p> <p><b>0.9</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 237:17</p> <p><b>0.91</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 237:17</p> <p><b>0.92</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 237:17</p>			
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<p><b>1</b><sup>[17]</sup> - 200:2, 225:10, 228:6, 228:7, 228:18, 229:25, 234:6, 241:13, 242:4, 242:8, 257:17, 273:10, 280:15, 286:8, 288:3, 304:9, 305:12</p> <p><b>10</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 260:22</p> <p><b>10%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 295:1</p> <p><b>10.08</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 257:4</p> <p><b>100</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 209:21, 255:13</p> <p><b>100%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 219:1</p> <p><b>100-point</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 286:6</p> <p><b>112</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 277:1, 296:7</p> <p><b>12</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 277:15</p> <p><b>121</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 281:13</p> <p><b>13.7</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 263:3</p> <p><b>13th</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 305:20</p> <p><b>14</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 296:10, 296:16</p> <p><b>15</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 303:22</p> <p><b>16</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 255:14</p> <p><b>19</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 199:12</p> <p><b>1A</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 273:17, 274:2</p>			
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<p><b>2</b><sup>[9]</sup> - 199:13, 228:19, 229:1, 229:3, 229:25, 263:16, 280:15, 288:3, 301:25</p> <p><b>2%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 229:8</p> <p><b>2.7</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 258:20</p> <p><b>2.82</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 259:12</p> <p><b>2/21/2013</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 305:24</p> <p><b>20</b><sup>[4]</sup> - 245:23, 253:9, 253:11, 284:8</p> <p><b>20%</b><sup>[3]</sup> - 228:18, 229:1, 234:12</p> <p><b>2011</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 199:12, 305:21</p> <p><b>25</b><sup>[3]</sup> - 229:4, 229:15, 255:16</p> <p><b>250</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 280:13</p> <p><b>25th</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 286:7</p> <p><b>28</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 255:24</p> <p><b>280-some</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 260:14</p>			
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<p><b>3</b><sup>[8]</sup> - 229:4, 229:25, 260:12, 273:19, 274:8, 284:22, 288:4, 301:25</p> <p><b>3%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 229:8</p> <p><b>3,000</b><sup>[5]</sup> - 260:8, 260:18, 261:1, 263:10, 263:16</p> <p><b>30</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 227:6, 227:16</p> <p><b>304</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 305:12</p> <p><b>38</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 220:23</p> <p><b>3A</b><sup>[9]</sup> - 236:6, 236:8, 265:15, 267:25, 268:22, 269:2, 269:4, 274:15, 274:21</p> <p><b>3A1</b><sup>[5]</sup> - 236:8, 265:15, 269:2, 273:8, 273:11</p> <p><b>3B</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 275:10</p> <p><b>3C</b><sup>[16]</sup> - 234:4, 253:25, 261:7, 275:7, 275:15, 294:6, 294:7, 294:9, 294:12, 294:22, 294:24, 298:8, 299:20, 300:5, 303:7, 303:10</p>			
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	<p><b>4</b><sup>[7]</sup> - 229:25, 255:19, 260:13, 268:11, 272:4, 272:11, 301:25</p> <p><b>40</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 253:13</p> <p><b>40%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 295:1</p> <p><b>4:00</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 226:17, 301:20</p> <p><b>4th</b><sup>[3]</sup> - 267:22, 269:6, 296:12</p> <p><b>4the</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 295:10</p>		
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	<p><b>5</b><sup>[7]</sup> - 202:6, 202:7, 229:16, 257:22, 261:8, 268:7, 284:22</p> <p><b>5%</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 229:9, 279:13</p> <p><b>5.36</b><sup>[3]</sup> - 257:12, 259:23, 261:6</p> <p><b>50</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 255:15</p> <p><b>55%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 282:13</p> <p><b>5:00</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 302:3</p> <p><b>5th</b><sup>[3]</sup> - 267:23, 295:10, 296:13</p>		
	<b>6</b>		
	<p><b>6</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 288:4</p> <p><b>60%</b><sup>[4]</sup> - 228:19, 229:2, 229:14, 234:13</p> <p><b>62%</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 229:4, 229:14</p> <p><b>67</b><sup>[7]</sup> - 242:16, 249:25, 250:22, 250:23, 292:12, 292:20, 292:22</p>		
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	<p><b>7</b><sup>[6]</sup> - 258:5, 258:7, 277:6, 292:5, 295:8, 296:8</p> <p><b>7.0</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 256:15</p> <p><b>7.92</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 257:9</p> <p><b>70%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 241:18</p> <p><b>75th</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 286:7</p> <p><b>77</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 260:21</p> <p><b>7th</b><sup>[7]</sup> - 240:14, 240:16, 240:17, 241:1, 241:13, 242:5, 280:11</p>		
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	<p><b>8</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 254:25, 255:16</p> <p><b>8.36</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 259:24</p> <p><b>8.85</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 256:13</p> <p><b>8th</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 280:13</p>		
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	<p><b>9</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 260:22, 284:22</p> <p><b>94%</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 282:13</p> <p><b>95%</b><sup>[2]</sup> - 281:10, 282:12</p> <p><b>96</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 209:20</p> <p><b>96's</b><sup>[1]</sup> - 209:20</p>		
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