

The Investment Grid: Linking Costs and Outcomes

This investment grid template can be used to help leaders assess current investments and their expected outcomes and risks to finalize spending plans and do the most for students. Customize this tool to compare costs and expected outcomes for different strategies and dosages for a particular evidence-based intervention or across different interventions for the same students.

Example

All-Star Unified has 10 schools with 400 students per school and has \$1,000,000 to put toward an investment. Fill in the shaded cells on a set of proposed investments (each \$1M). Discuss: which makes more/less sense from a cost/value perspective?

	Investment	Major Cost Factors	Estimated # Students Served	Cost Per Participating Student	Desired Outcomes – Estimated Effectiveness (High/Med/Low)	Risks
A	Tutoring 1-to-1 student-teacher ratio 3x/week, 36 weeks	Tutors = \$30/hour	308 students (Highest-needs students?)	$\$1,000,000/308=$ \$3,240	Math and reading scores increase? Grades increase? – Promising?	Some students may not attend; no peer interaction; difficulty hiring tutors
B	Tutoring 4-to-1 student-teacher ratio 3x/week, 36 weeks	Tutors = \$30/hour	1,232 max			
C	Adding specialists staff to schools	\$100,000 per FTE = 1 per school	4,000	\$250		
D	High school recovery courses	Summer provider costs \$875/ student		\$875		
E	Length of school day 20 minutes/day	\$3,600 stipend for all certificated staff	4,000	\$250		
F	PD & planning time Teachers paid extra for SEL – one week before school starts plus 10 half-days	\$3,600 stipend for all certificated staff	4,000	\$250		

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A						
B						
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F						