How can SEAs make sure district and school leaders pursue productivity?

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Five webinars: All at 1 EST, 10 PST.

- Thursday, February 11 – What role can SEAs play in making the case for productivity?
- Thursday, February 25 – What information systems are needed, and how should they be used?
- Thursday, March 3 – What changes in state funding and regulatory structures work best to support productivity?
- Thursday, March 10 – What leverage do SEAs have to influence costs in districts?
- **Thursday, March 24 – How can SEAs make sure district and school leaders pursue productivity?**

Key Opportunities for States

1. Build information systems that districts and schools can use to fuel productivity gains.
2. School finance formulas:
   a. Prioritize flexibility so that districts and schools are free to try new delivery models.
   b. Fund students not delivery models.
3. Use SEA leverage (including certification, tools, etc.) to affect costs, enable productivity improvements.
4. Drive a focus on productivity from the SEA.

Emphasize Productivity

▸ Message productivity:

  ◦ Articulate the challenge: "How can schools leverage their dollars to maximize outcomes for the students they serve?"

  ◦ When discussing $, always link to outcomes.

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  ◦ Message *local responsibility* for productivity

Productivity needn't compete with other priorities.

Productivity message:

How can "schools leverage their dollars to maximize outcomes for the students they serve?"

K-3 literacy message:

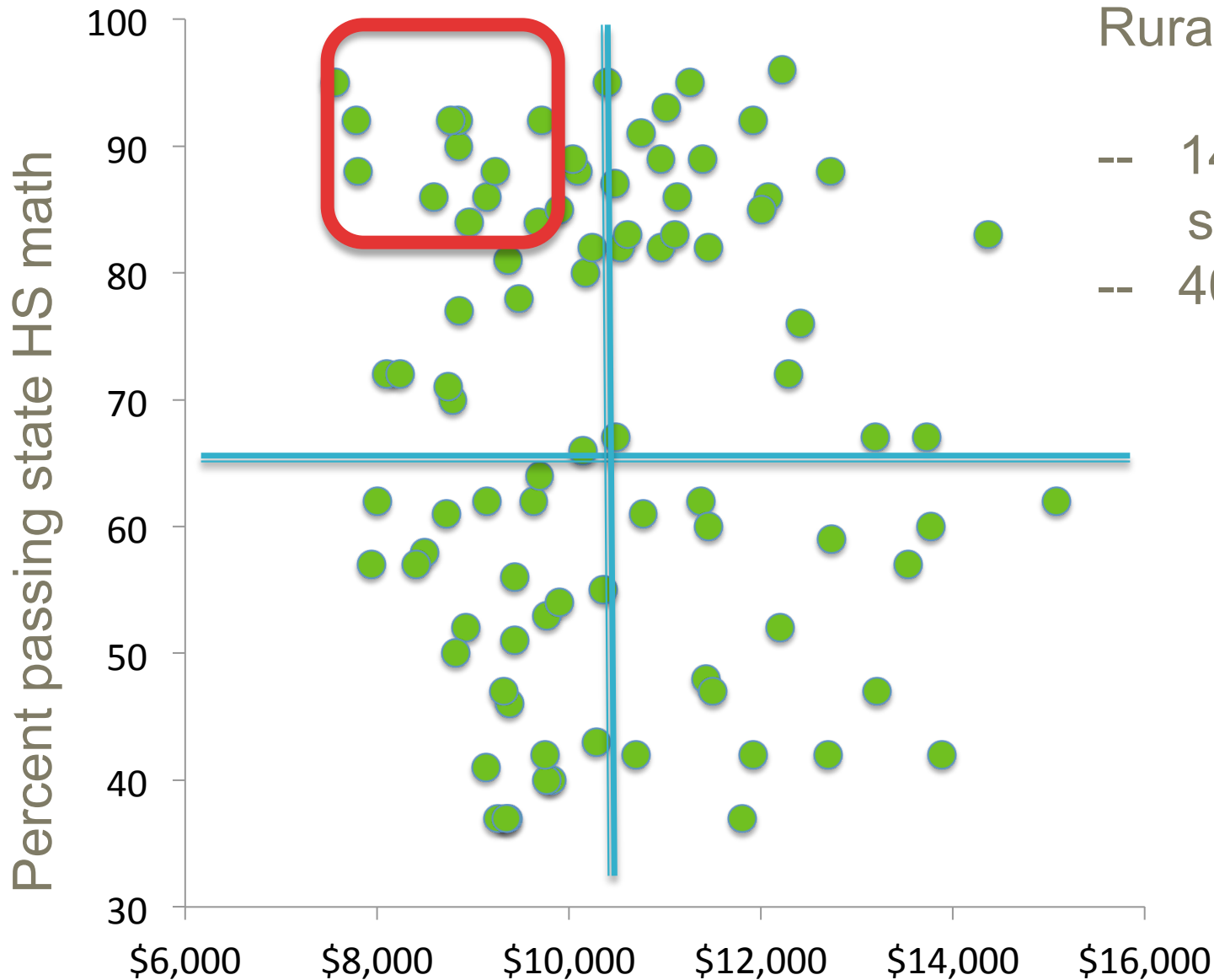We need to improve K-3 literacy outcomes.

Tweak to:

How can "schools leverage their dollars to maximize **K-3 literacy** for the students they serve?"

Emphasize Productivity

▸ Celebrate successes
  ◦ Call out high productivity schools.

Emphasize productivity

▶ **Share high productivity models**

  ◦ To trigger focus on leveraging $ to get high outcomes.

▶ **Create grants to incent leaders to pursue their own productive models**

  ◦ Ohio Straight A Fund provided "transition" grants to applicants who proposed changes that would increase outcomes on sustainable public funding.

  ◦ NY made similar grants (more for operational costs).

Leverage ESSA

▶ ESSA represents an opportunity for states to redirect state attention to new priorities.

○ Increased flexibility in application of federal funds.
• Supplement, not supplant flexibility.

○ Weighted student funding pilot.

○ New requirement for school-level spending reporting… for most states this will require redesigning information systems.

Which level of government should do the following?

		Fed	State	District	School
A	Set pay scale for teachers				
B	Set standards for desired student outcomes				
C	Measure school outcomes				
D	Determine delivery model (e.g. class sizes, how many hours of PE, # school days)				
E	Set aside $ for PD, books, transportation, etc.				
F	Target funds to a desired service/ program				

Which level of government should do the following?

		Fed	State	District	School
G	Target funds to a desired student category				
H	Build data sets measuring stuff that can aid school improvement				
I	Award teacher bonuses				
J	Pay the pension bills				
K	Shut down a poorly performing school				
L	Provide incentive grants for innovation				

Checklist – Information Systems

Couple outcomes and spending data by school	CA	NC	DE	OH	WA
	Non-affiliated group doing pilot. State has no effort underway.	Advocacy group workign with SEA to and separate group to do pilot.	Separate groups have done pilots. No DEA effort underway	SEA taking the lead to do this in-house	No effort underway
1. Spending data by school					
Capture school-based spending	Requires data capture from districts. Data exists for charters	State has info	State has info	State has info	State has info
Layer on each school's share of central district spending		Calculations required but info accessible	Calculations required but info accessible	In progress	Calculations required but info accessible
Enable comparisons in spending across schools with different student needs (e.g. use weights or some other basis for comparisons)		Calculations required but info accessible	Calculations required but info accessible	Schools grouped by type to allow comparisons	Calculations required but info accessible
Build user-interface that allows searching, benchmarking, filtering		Pilot underway.		In-house effort in progress. Early interface available.	
2. Outcomes data by school					
Capture school by school outcomes					
Enable comparisons across schools with different student demographics					
3. Integrate outcomes and spending data by school					

What's happening in your states?

Additional Opportunities

1. Optional one-on-one calls with RCC/SEA and Edunomics Lab staff for additional support on a specific project.
   - These are optional. Please email Amanda Warco at amanda.warco@georgetown.edu if you know are interested.