



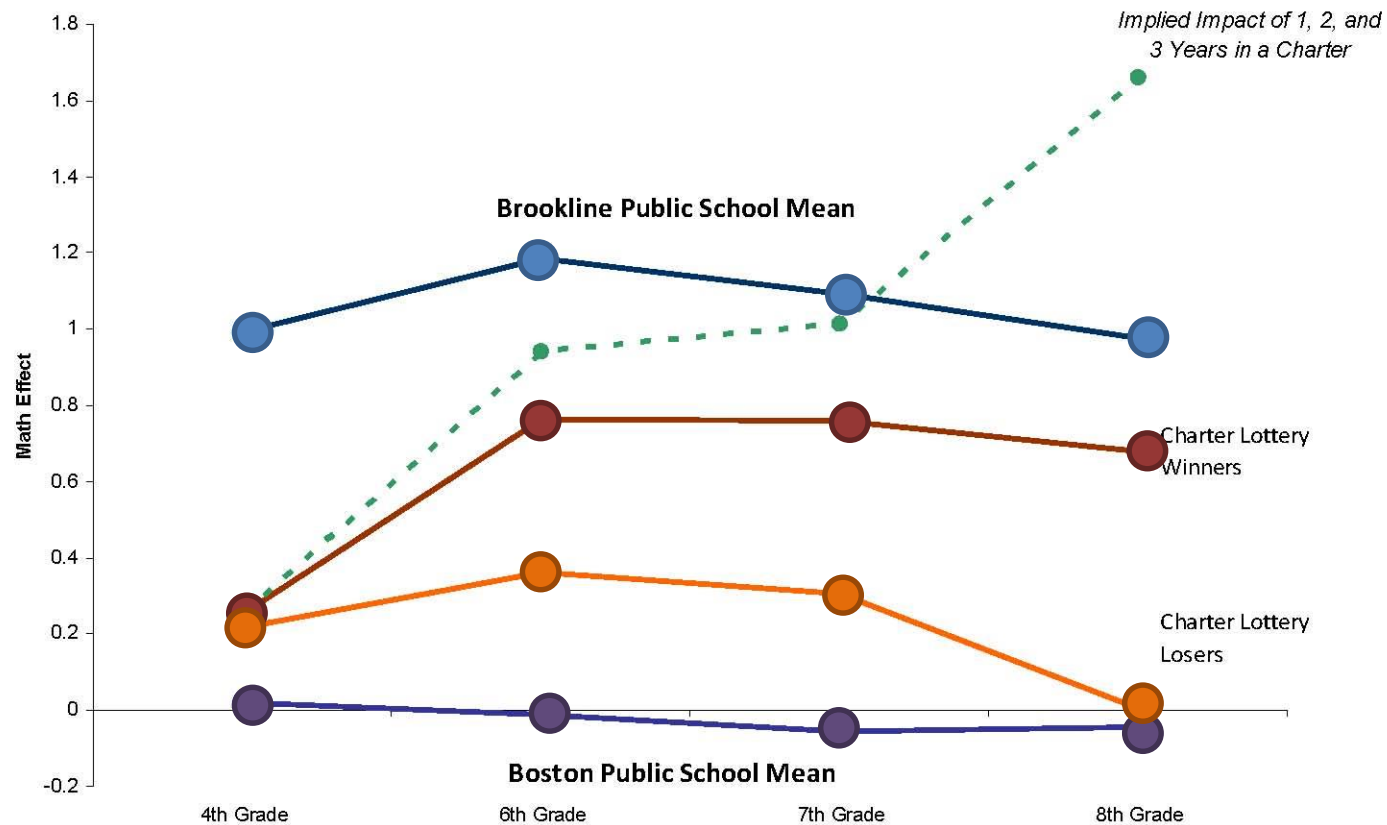
Center for Education Policy Research
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

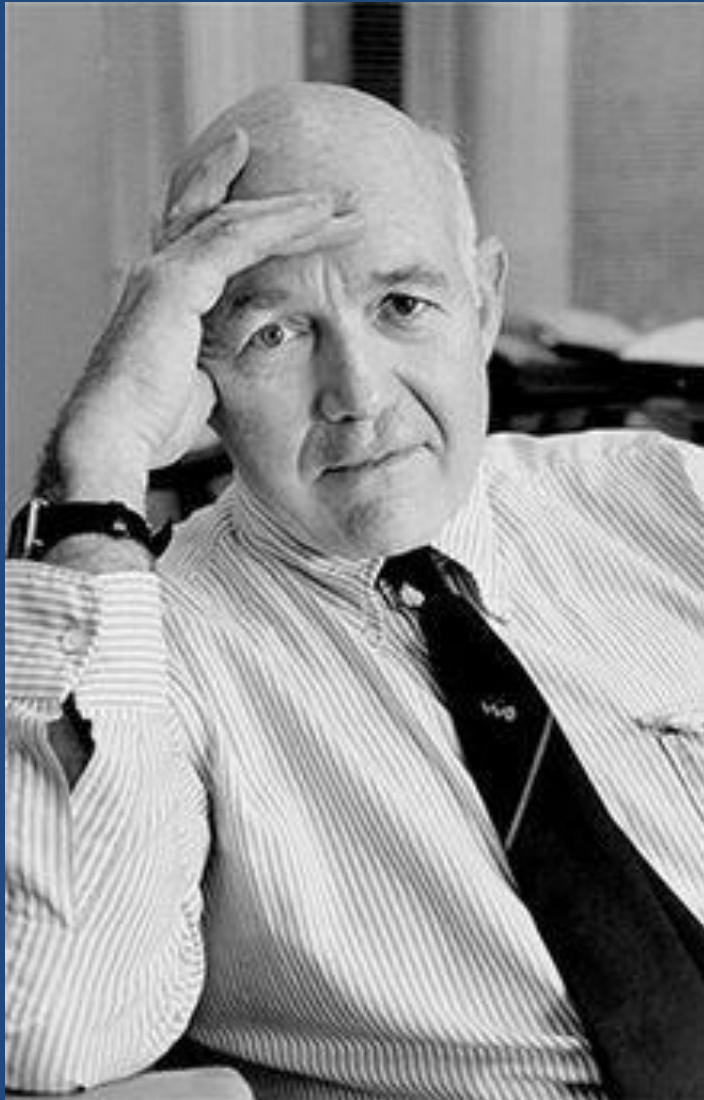
Who Should Pay When Students Leave for Charters?

By Thomas J. Kane

Walter H. Gale Professor of Education and Economics

How big are the charter impacts?





James Coleman

“...variations in family background account for far more variation in school achievement than do variations in school characteristics.”

-Coleman Report, 1966

Concern #1

“I support the public schools in my community.”

Table 1. Urban Districts with the Highest Charter Tuition Payments

	Projected Charter Tuition Payment in FY 17 (% of Net School Spending)	Percent Economically Disadvantaged	Percent English Language Learners	Number of Students on Charter Waiting Lists
Boston	14.0	49.5	30.3	10,308
Holyoke	13.6	67.6	24.6	404
Chelsea	11.2	49.5	26.6	373
Springfield	11.0	67.1	16.3	3,931
Malden	10.7	40.2	18.7	1,789
Fall River	10.7	59.1	9.5	441
Lawrence	10.2	63.0	31.0	1,097
Lowell	9.9	38.4	4.7	406
New Bedford	8.5	55.7	22.5	819
Salem	8.3	43.6	13.7	242
Lynn	8.3	47.0	19.5	1,118
Somerville	8.1	36.0	18.4	88
Everett	8.0	42.1	16.0	764
Marlborough	7.3	27.8	17.9	139
Amherst	7.0	28.1	16.6	84
State		27.4	9.0	32,646

Note. Projected charter tuition payment represents percentage of net school spending; economic disadvantage is calculated based on a student's participation in one or more of the following state-administered programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); the Transitional Assistance for Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC); the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) foster care program; and MassHealth (Medicaid) (Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, n.d.).

Table 3. Charter–District Differences in SGP in Urban Districts with the Highest Charter Tuition Payments

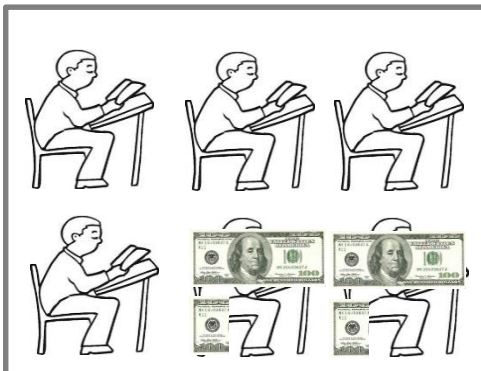
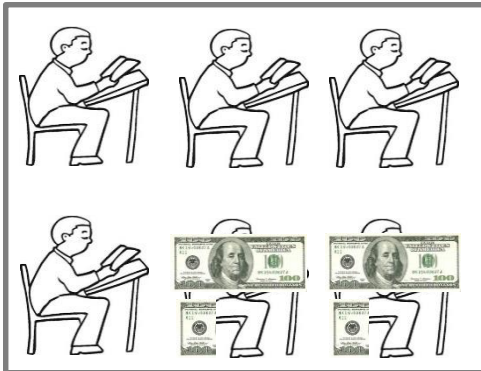
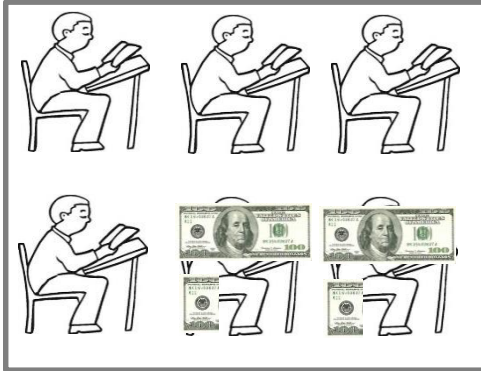
	Projected Charter Tuition Payment in FY 17 (%)	District		Receiving Charter		Charter–District Difference	
		SGP Math	SGP English	SGP Math	SGP English	SGP Math	SGP English
Charters have an advantage:							
Chelsea	11.2	37	40	73	81	36	41
Salem	8.3	43	46	76	68	32	21
Lynn	8.3	46	48	71	71	26	23
Boston	14	49	47	64	64	15	17
Everett	8	42	53	58	56	16	3
Holyoke	13.6	46	40	47	54	1	14
No clear advantage to charters or district:							
Marlborough	7.3	54	51	62	56	8	4
New Bedford	8.5	43	41	44	49	2	8
Springfield	11	41	41	47	43	6	2
Lowell	9.9	50	48	51	50	1	3
Lawrence	10.2	58	53	50	63	-8	10
Amherst	7	61	60	62	60	1	1
Malden	10.7	58	53	53	55	-5	2
Fall River	10.7	54	50	64	36	10	-14
Advantage to district:							
Somerville	8.1	61	59	49	57	-11	-2
State Average		50	50	57	57	6	6

Concern #2

*“Charter schools drain resources
from district schools.”*

The Financial Implications of Charter Enrollment

District

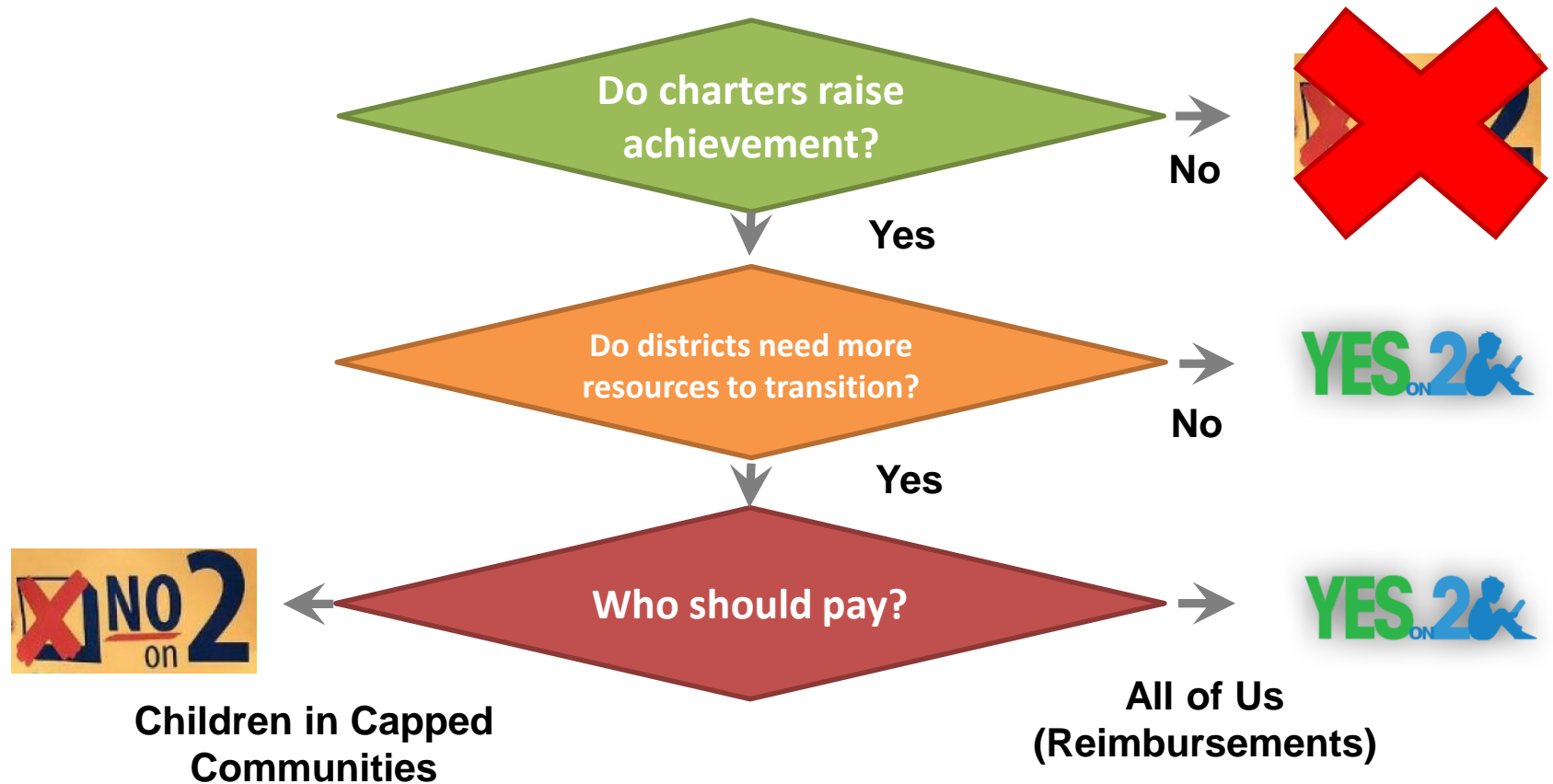


**Are the
reimbursements
sufficient to help
districts
transition?**

Charter



The evidence clarifies the choice.

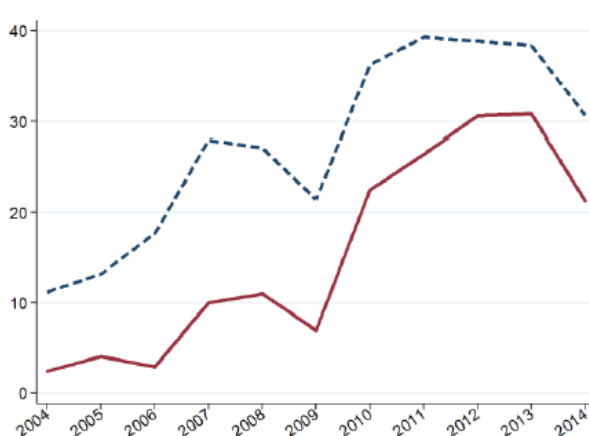
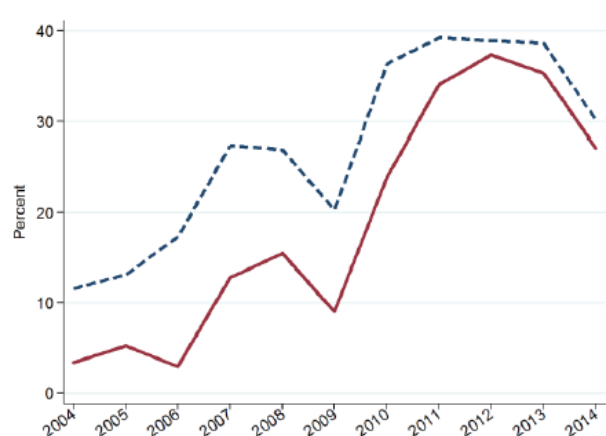


Percent English Language Learners in Charters and BPS

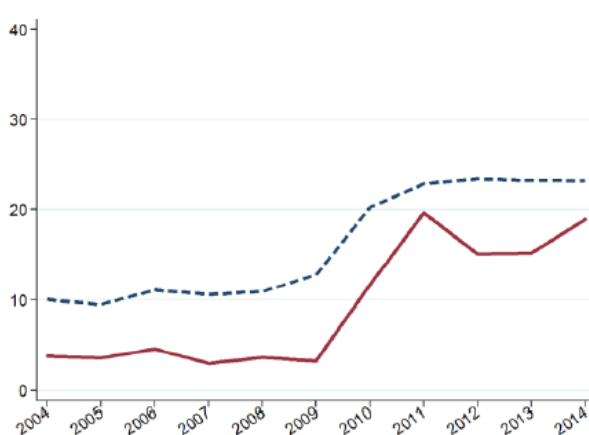
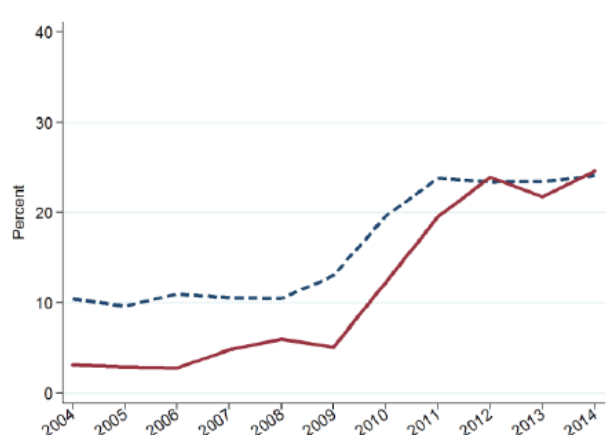
Lottery

Enrollment

Panel A: Middle School



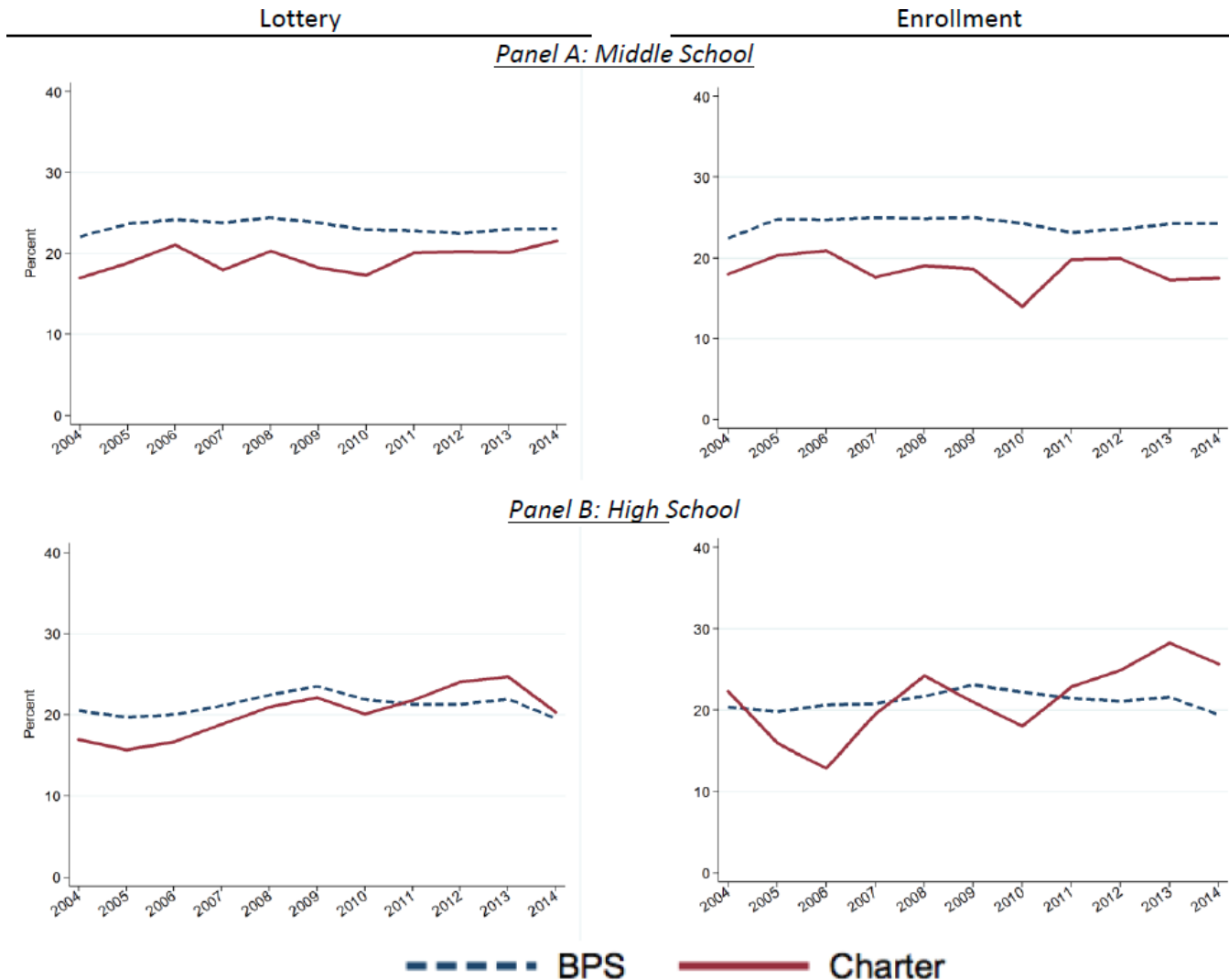
Panel C: High School



--- BPS — Charter

From: Elizabeth Setren (2015) "Special Education and English Language Learner Students in Boston Charter Schools: Impact and Classification", MIT

Percent Special Education in Charters and BPS



From: Elizabeth Setren (2015) "Special Education and English Language Learner Students in Boston Charter Schools: Impact and Classification", MIT