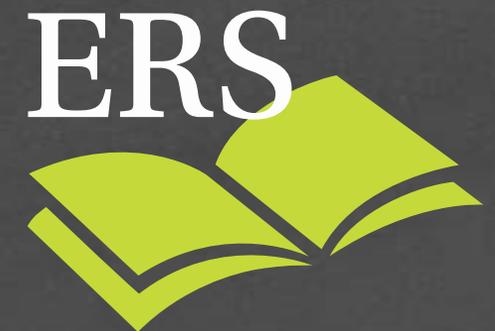


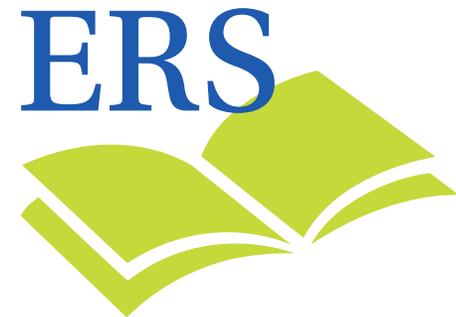
# Lowell Fair Student Funding and Site-Based Budgeting Implementation

Presentation to School Committee

January 15, 2020



ERS is a **non-profit organization**  
dedicated to **transforming** how  
school systems organize **resources**  
(people, time, and money)  
so that **every school succeeds**  
**for every student.**



# We partner with districts across the country to transform resource use so that every school succeeds for every student



## Districts with Fair Student Funding Design & Implementation Support

Atlanta  
Baltimore  
Boston  
Cleveland

Denver  
Indianapolis  
Nashville  
Newark

Prince George's County  
Rochester  
Santa Fe  
Shelby County

# First thing to know is that Fair Student Funding goes by many names

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- Across districts, we've seen:
- Student Based Budgeting
- Student Based Allocations
- Student Success Funding
- Fair Student Funding
- Weighted Student Funding



# Fair Student Funding (FSF) can help districts accomplish three goals with their funding system

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## Equity

Resources are distributed equitably based on student need

*"Dollars follow the student"*



## Transparency

Clear and easily understood rules for where, how, and why dollars flow

*"The formula tells you what you get"*



\*Site-base  
Budgeting

## Flexibility

School leaders define the resources they need to drive student achievement

*"Principals own their budgets"*

# Instead of receiving staff allocations and supply budgets, schools are allocated funds based on the characteristics of their students

Traditional School Budget:	
The central office decides how much funding schools receive and how the funding is spent	<b>Staff</b>
	40 teachers
	3 Assistant Principals
	2 Counselor
	1 Secretary
	Etc ...
	<b>Non-Staff</b>
	\$15,000 for instructional supplies
	\$5,000 for athletic supplies
	Etc ...

Example School Budget under FSF:

	Enrollment	Weight	Total
All students	750	1.0 = \$4,250	\$3,187,500
Below Proficient	400	0.10 = \$425	\$170,000
Economically Disadvantaged	550	0.05 = \$212	\$116,600
ELL	200	0.20 = \$850	\$170,000
	<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>\$3,644,100</b>
Schools receive \$'s, not staff and programs			

# These unlocked resources are distributed through a formula that weights different characteristics- chosen to meet the individual district's needs

	Atlanta (SY1819)	Baltimore (SY1718)	Boston (SY1718)	Cleveland (SY1718)	Denver (SY1617)	Indianapolis (SY1718)	Nashville (SY1819)	San Francisco (SY1718)	Shelby County (SY1819)
Poverty	X		X		X	X	X	X	
ELL	X		X	X	X		X	X	
SWD	X		X	X			X		
Grade Weight	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Low Performance	X	X		X	X		X		X
High Performance/ Gifted	X	X		X	X				X
Other Weights		Dropout Prevention		Mobility, Attendance				SWD Supplies	Mobility

# These weights are combined with a set of policies to help the district strike a balance between equity and stability

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## Weights:

- **Base weight**- minimum that a school will receive per student
- **Student Need Weights**- add'l funding based on the needs of students

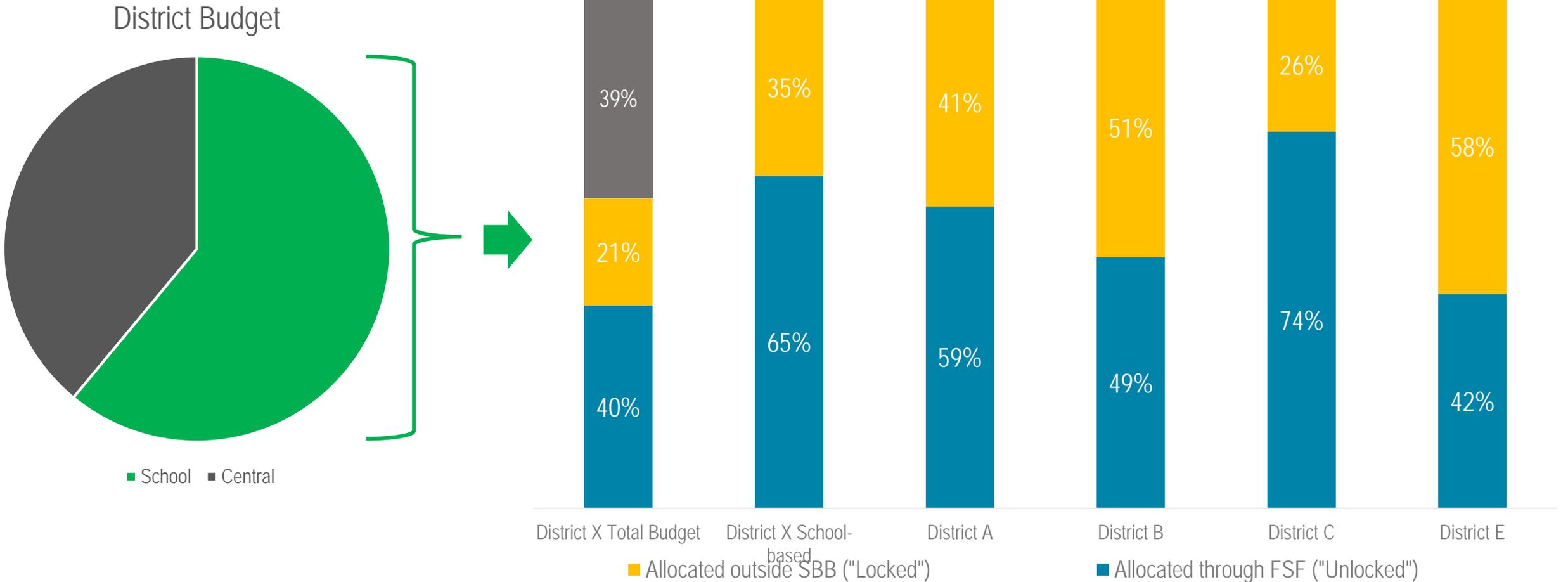
## Policies:

- **Baseline Services** ensures all schools are able to provide a minimum level of services
- **Transition policy** ensures schools do not see large swings year over year



# When implementing FSF, districts allocate 40-75% of school-based resources through the FSF formula

% of School resources distributed through SBB by district



# And providing increased flexibility over resources at the school level

## School Based Resources



*\*\*Flexibility within resources exists, even though distributed outside of SSF formula*

# With Site-Based Budgeting, school leaders then use their budget to determine the number and mix of staff and other resources to match school needs and priorities

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## *Example Elementary 1*

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### *Select School Strategies:*

- Improve **use of differentiation strategies** through content, process, product and learning environment
- Improve the implementation of processes and resource allocation to better **align with strategic goals**.

### *Budget Highlights:*

- Added 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers
- Reduced 1.5 Special Subjects teachers (PE and World language)
- Replaced 6 kindergarten paras with \$110k in hourly paras

## *Example Elementary 2*

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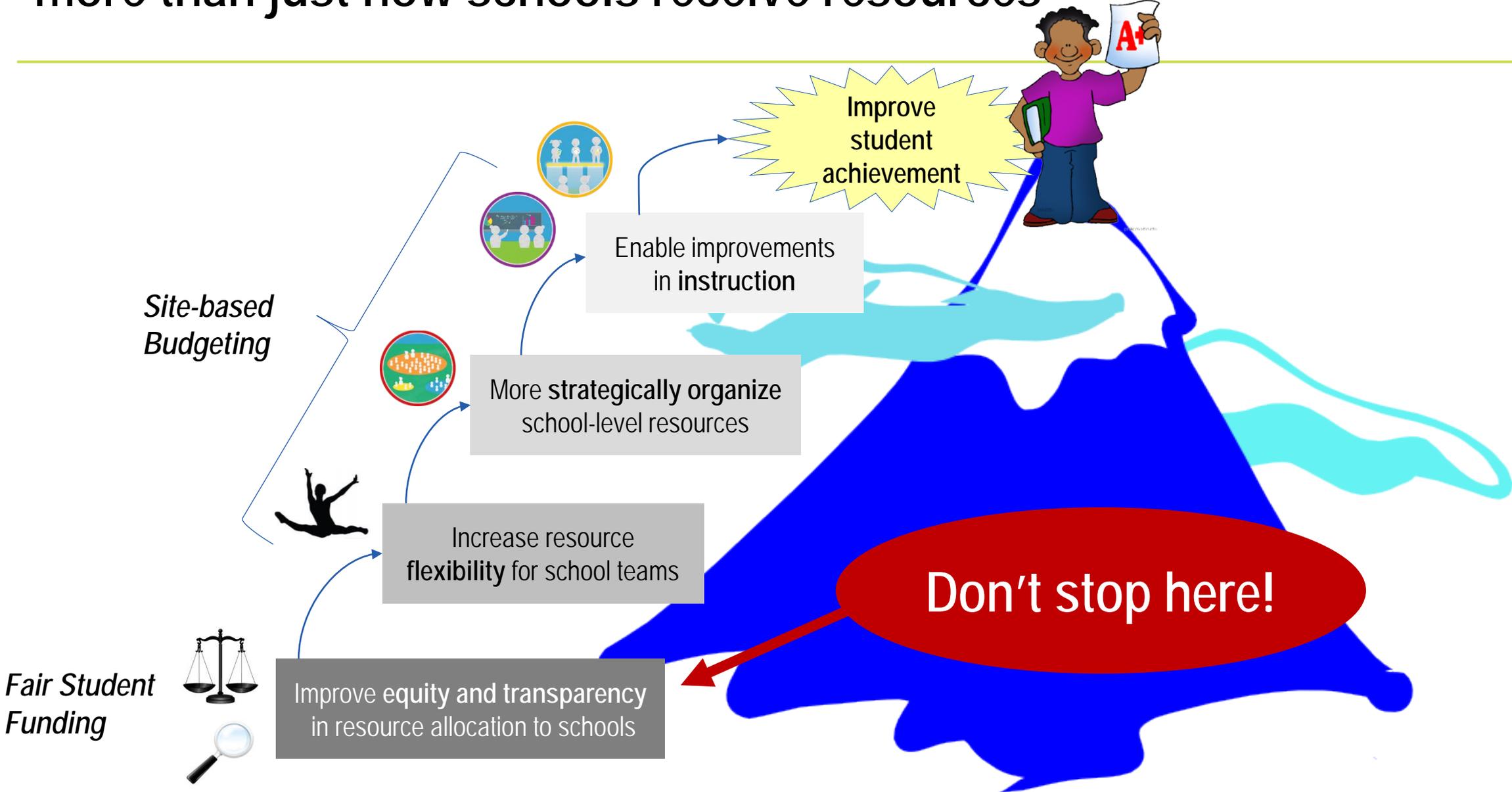
### *Select School Strategies:*

- Maintain **common planning** for all grade levels once per week
- Maintain Parent Rally & Upgrade Parent Center to **engage more parents**

### *Budget Highlights:*

- Maintained student: teacher ratio of 16
- Went from 0 para and 1 media specialist to 1 para and 0 media specialist
- Added 0.2 band teacher and 0.5 parent liaison

# Seeing FSF lead to improved student performance means changing more than just how schools receive resources



# Over in the next few months the Finance Team will bring several decisions to you for adoption

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## 1. Formula:

1. What weights will LPS use to increase equity?
2. What policies will LPS implement to ensure stability for schools?

## 2. Flexibility:

1. What resources will schools have