from the COMMONWEALTH FOUNDATION

October 2014

## York City School District: Academic Performance

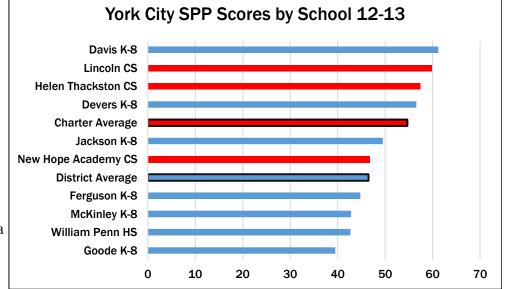
### YORK CITY SCHOOLS AMONG LOWEST PERFORMING IN PENNSYLVANIA

- York City SD ranked <u>499 out of 500 districts</u> on the Department of Education's 2012-13 State Performance Profile (SPP), with a score of 46.5.
  - $\Rightarrow$  The state considers 70 to be a passing score.
- William Penn Senior High School—the primary public high school in the district—was one of the bottom 15 percent of schools in the state.
  - ⇒ SPP Score: 42.7
  - ⇒ Advanced or Proficient, 2012-13 PSSA/Keystone Exams:
    - ♦ Math: 39 percent
    - Reading: 51 percent
  - ⇒ Average Math SAT: 381
  - ⇒ Average Reading SAT: 368
- Preliminary results indicate most city schools saw declining scores in 2013-14.

# CHARTERS OUTPERFORM DISTRICT SCHOOLS

- The three charter schools operating in York City averaged a 54.7 on the SPP compared to 46.5 for district schools.
- New Hope Academy Charter

  School, which was forced to shut down after 2013 in part for academic performance, had a higher SPP score than 4 of 7 district schools.

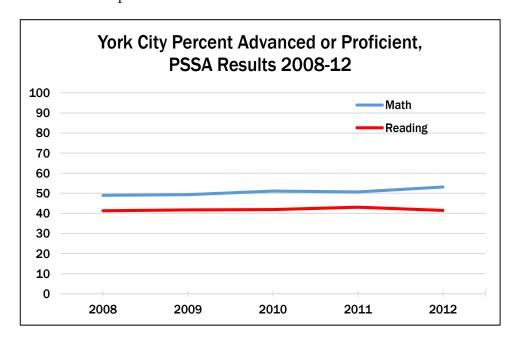


#### **PSSA RESULTS LAG BEHIND STATEWIDE AVERAGES**

- York students lag behind both statewide and economically disadvantaged PSSA scores.
- In 2012, more than twice as many York students performed 'below basic' in math than the statewide average.
- Nearly three times as many York students performed 'below basic' in reading than the statewide average.

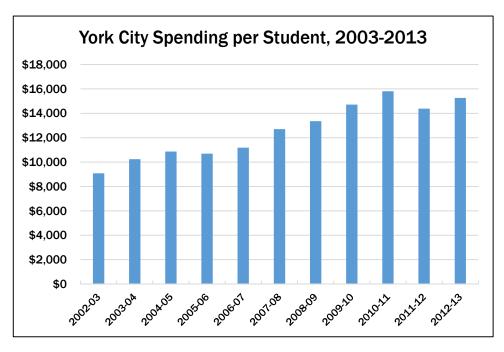
York City PSSA Results 2012 (Percentage)			
	York City SD	Statewide	Economically Disadvantaged
Advanced or Proficient, Math	53.1	75.6	61.6
Advanced or Proficient, Reading	41.5	72.0	55.4
Below Basic, Math	25.7	11.1	19.0
Below Basic, Reading	35.8	13.7	24.3

■ York City saw little to no improvement in PSSA scores between 2008 and 2012.



### SPENDING PER STUDENT HAS SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED OVER THE LAST DECADE

- York City spending per student (Average Daily Membership) increased from \$9,081 in 2002-03 to \$15,256 in 2012-13. This is a 33 percent increase in inflation adjusted dollars.
- Spending per ADM exceeds the statewide average of \$14,600.



###

The Commonwealth Foundation is Pennsylvania's free-market think tank.

For more on Education Reform, visit CommonwealthFoundation.org

