

MSBO
Principles of Education
Group Data/Chart Activity

Names: _____

Directions: Examine the “Budget Transparency Reports” provided. Work with your table partner(s) to answer the following questions.

- 1) Fund Modifications can be transfers to other accounts within a District’s expenses. Sometimes this is done to more closely track spending for a different purpose. In Lakeview, \$2 Million of funds were transferred to another account in the Budget for the purpose of buying computers, fixing a roof or fixing a sidewalk. What District showed the largest amount of money on Fund Modifications? How much?
- 2) What District had the largest percentage of money in Fund Modifications? What was the percent?
- 3) Personnel costs typically are the largest expense category in a school district budget. It makes sense, schools employ a lot of people who work with and/or supervise students. What District spent the largest percentage of money on Total Personnel Expenditures? What was the percent? Is their teacher pay the highest (how could you find out)?
- 4) Providing medical, dental, prescription and other health benefits is a common part of the compensation package for professionals in the workplace. Schools employ many people, so Employee Insurance Benefits are a large part of district budgets. What District spent the most amount of money on Insurance Benefits? What was the amount?
- 5) What District spent the largest percentage of their budget on Employee Insurance Benefits? Does this mean those employees had the “best” insurance? Why or why not?
- 6) Capital Outlay normally refers to purchases like furniture or equipment (such as desks, chairs, tables, computers, etc.). What District spent the most in this area? How much?
- 7) Transportation is a common service schools must provide (getting to school, field trips, athletics, special education, shuttles to other schools, etc.). What district spent the most on Transportation?
- 8) Pupil Support Services relates to special education, speech services, social work, etc. What district spent the largest percentage on Pupil Support Services? Why do you think this line item on these reports is so large?