

What Questions Should You Ask When Presented with Data?

1. Who conducted the research?
2. Is this research valid and reliable? How do you know?
3. Is the research biased in anyway?
4. How up-to-date are the data?
5. What trends or patterns do the data reveal?
6. Are we comparing kids to themselves over a period of time, or different sets of students? Is this the comparison we want to show students are improving?
7. Did the students meet or exceed the goal we are examining? Who fell short? Why?
8. What different strategies will the staff employ to increase student achievement with these defined groups? Will staff implement new strategies or refine existing efforts?
9. Do we, as the board, need to redefine our End Results/goals policies as a result of what the data shows us?
10. How can we work together to communicate what the data has shown us with the community?