

# Importance of Understanding Data

This past April 1, one superintendent certified the following data:

Counts Attending	Counts Subsidy	Equip Instruction	Counts 4YO	Counts EK	Counts FRL	Counts SPED	Counts LEP	Counts SWSAC	Counts K2	Counts K8	Counts K12	Counts 912
22.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.00	14.00
1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
3.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00
0.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	3.00
0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
<b>27.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>4.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>17.00</b>
2328.00	2320.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	779.00	403.00	26.00	4.00	518.00	1576.00	2320.00	744.00

Luckily we noticed a huge error and brought it to their attention. This is what they ended up re-certifying:

Counts Attending	Counts Subsidy	Equip Instruction	Counts 4YO	Counts EK	Counts FRL	Counts SPED	Counts LEP	Counts SWSAC	Counts K2	Counts K8	Counts K12	Counts 912
745.00	731.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	187.00	118.00	5.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	731.00	731.00
488.00	490.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	164.00	96.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	490.00	490.00	0.00
349.00	345.00	2.25	0.00	0.00	119.00	51.00	4.00	0.00	345.00	345.00	345.00	0.00
741.00	739.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	281.00	135.00	13.00	1.00	179.00	739.00	739.00	0.00
0.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	3.00
0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
<b>2323.00</b>	<b>2309.00</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>753.00</b>	<b>404.00</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>524.00</b>	<b>1575.00</b>	<b>2309.00</b>	<b>734.00</b>
2328.00	2320.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	779.00	403.00	26.00	4.00	518.00	1576.00	2320.00	744.00

How big of an error was this?

If MDOE staff had not noticed this error, it would have cost that district **\$3,906,952.95** in State subsidy.