

FAST TRACK

TO TRANSFORMING AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

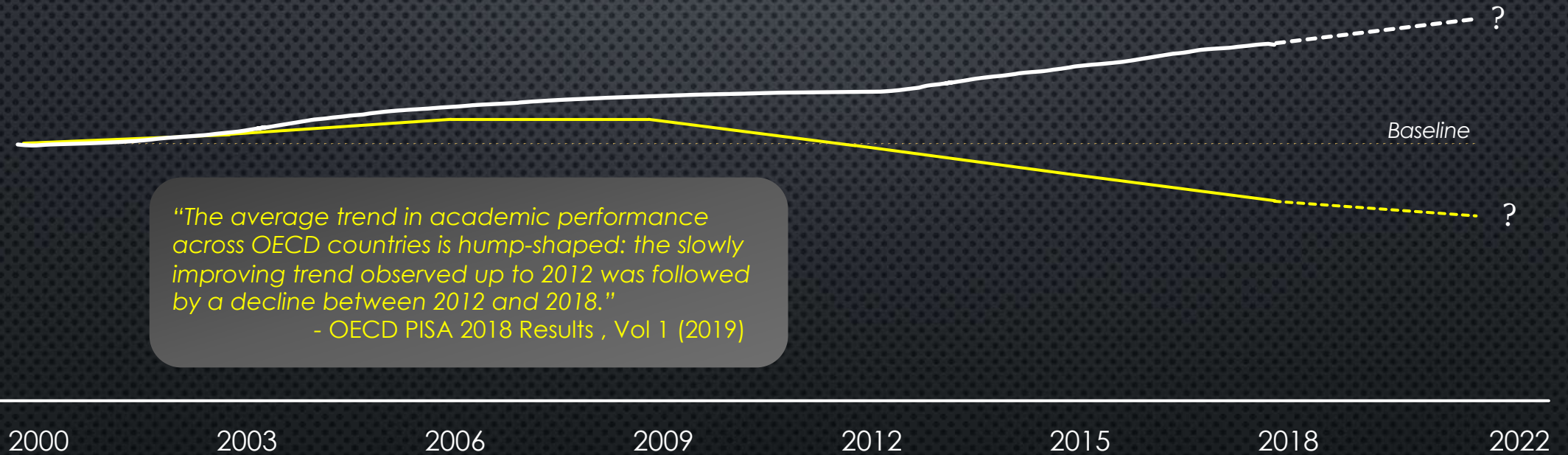
APPA 2023

HOBART, TAS

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Global education at a glance

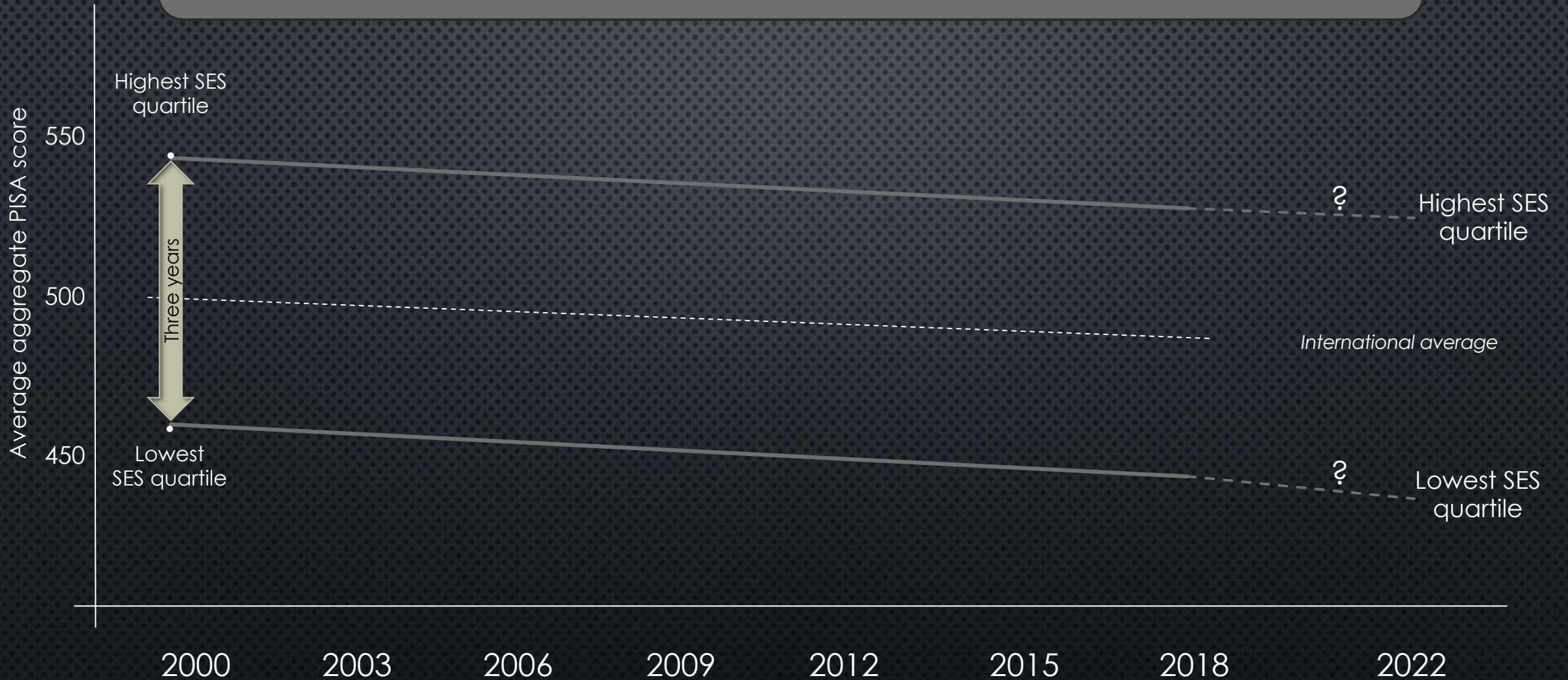
Average middle school student achievement in OECD countries



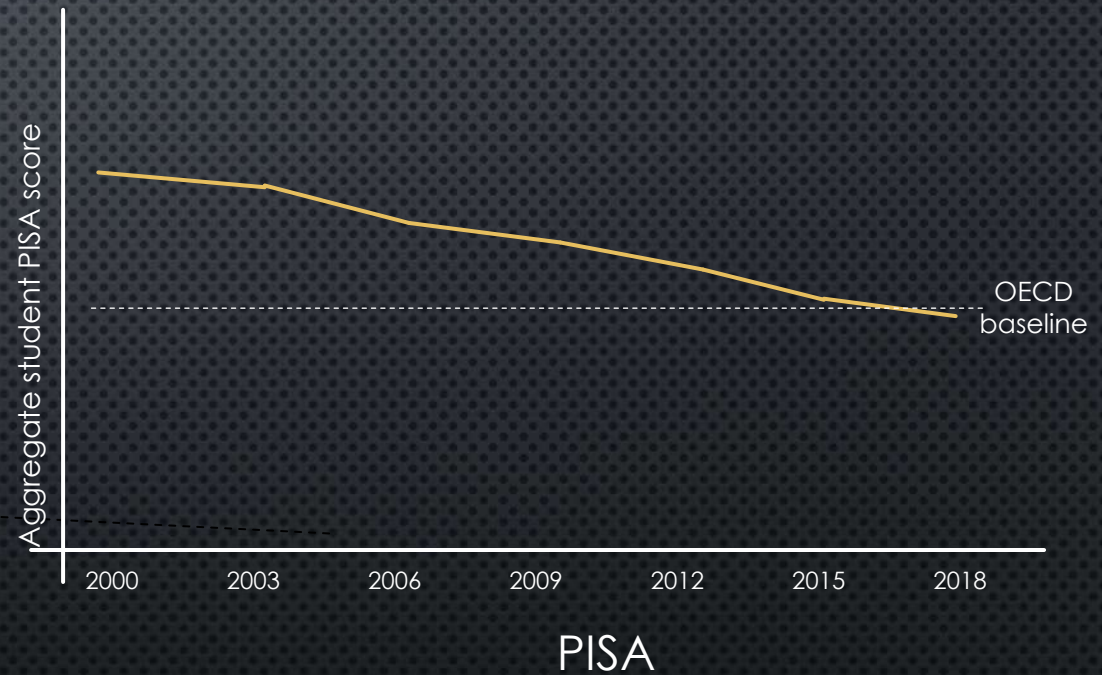
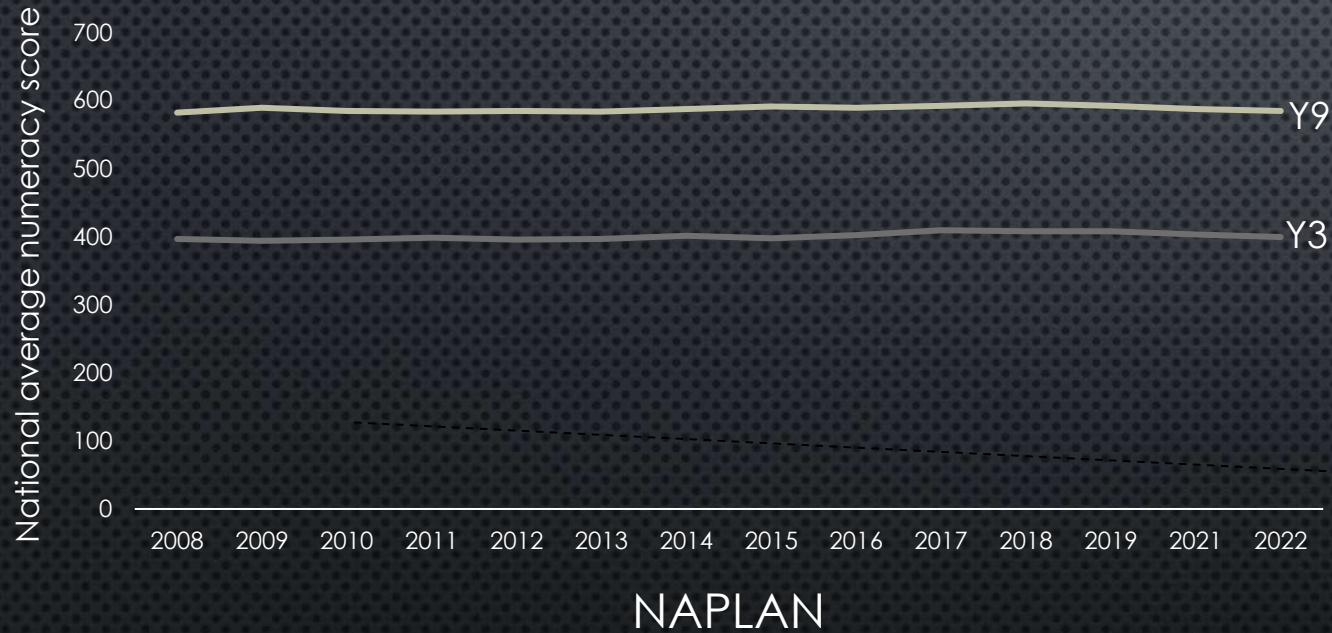
“Real spending on education has grown steadily over the last 10 years. But government education spending as a share of GDP has remained flat in the past 10 years.”
- UIS; OECD; IMF; World Bank databases

“The average trend in academic performance across OECD countries is hump-shaped: the slowly improving trend observed up to 2012 was followed by a decline between 2012 and 2018.”
- OECD PISA 2018 Results , Vol 1 (2019)

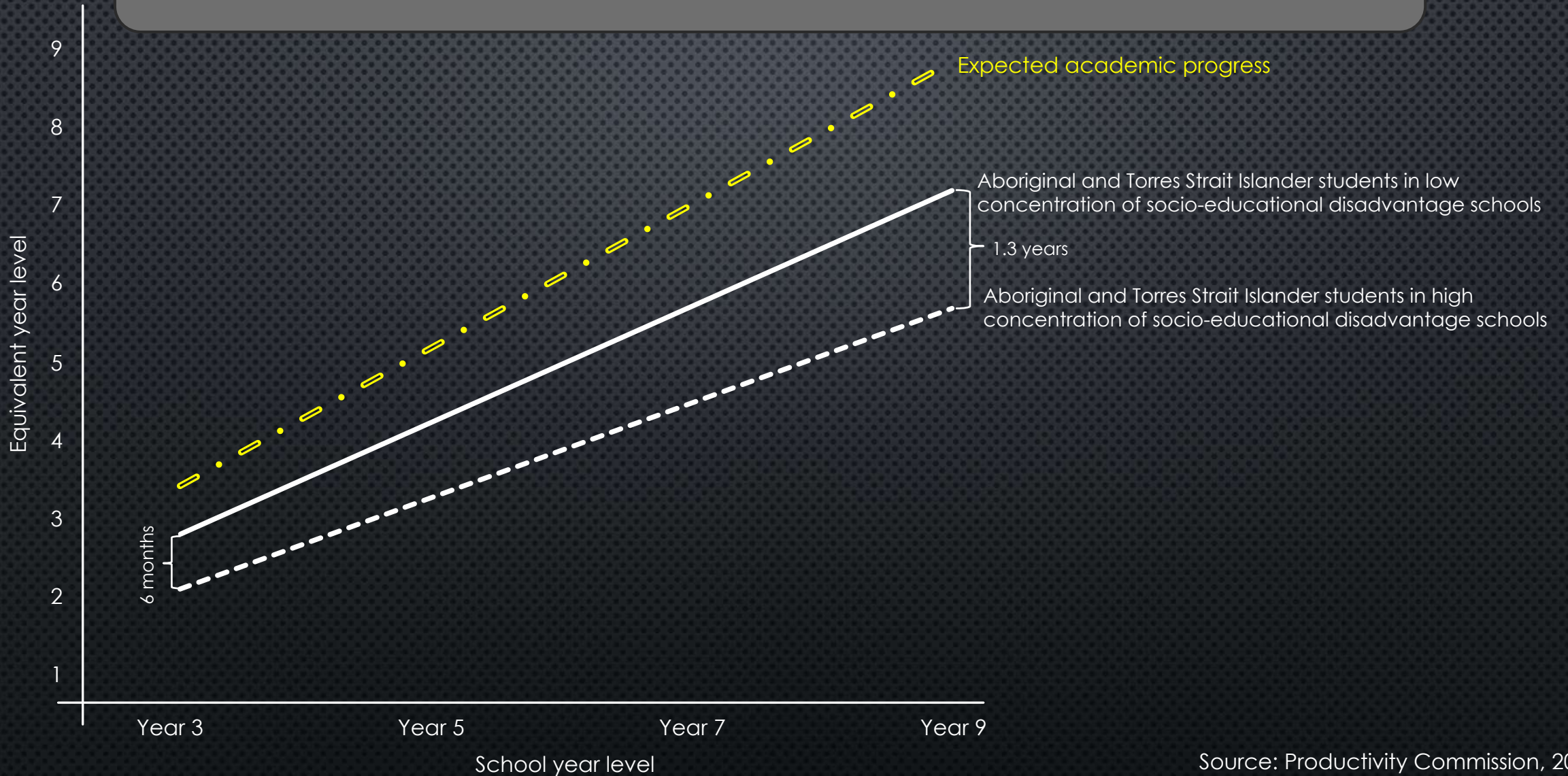
Average student (15-year-old) academic achievement in OECD countries by socioeconomic (SES) quartile since 2000



Student academic achievement in Australia in the 2000s



Student academic achievement in Australia in the 2000s



To fix this, we have tried almost everything, including:

- Tsunami of education reforms
- More data
- Bigger bureaucracies
- More technology in classrooms
- Less time to play
- Teachers working longer
- Students trying harder
- Punitive accountability for principals

Basic rule in horse riding:

"If the horse you're riding dies, get off."



In education reforms we don't always follow that advice. Instead, we try:

Buying a stronger whip.

Trying a new bit or bridle.

Switching riders.

Riding the horse for longer periods of time.

Saying "This is the way we've always ridden this horse."

Appointing a committee to study horses.

Arranging study visits to sites where they ride horses efficiently.

Creating a test for measuring our riding ability.

Increasing the standards for riding horses.

Coming up with new styles of riding.

Blaming the horse's parents. The problem is in the breeding.

Tightening the cinch.

THREE IDEAS TO TRANSFORM PRIMARY SCHOOLS

#1. Teacher looping

Looping is an old practice in which whole class is taught by the same teacher in two or more sequential years in school.

1-6

1-2 / 3-4 / 5-6

K-2 / 3-6

Advantages

1. Healthier relationships
 - with students
 - between students
 - with families
2. Student performance
 - attendance
 - achievement
 - wellbeing
3. Teacher job satisfaction
 - positive cultures
 - trust in teachers

Disadvantages

1. Issues with an under-performing teacher
 - negative impacts
 - poor relationships
2. Teacher workload
 - curriculum planning
 - new teaching skills
3. All teachers aren't necessarily "loop-ready"

THREE IDEAS TO TRANSFORM PRIMARY SCHOOLS

#2. Learning through better health

The purpose of school to focus on learning, wellbeing, and health for optimised whole child development. This is the way to 'full-service schools' and build a healthier foundation for lifelong success of every child.

- Health/Wellness as 21st century skills
- Nutritious school meals for all
- Benefits:
 - Improved wellbeing, attendance, engagement, and learning



Reinventing Australian Schools

for the better wellbeing, health and learning of every child

A discussion paper for the public on five key principles to improve the wellbeing, health and learning outcomes of every child in every community.

 murdoch children's research institute

 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

 Southern Cross University

 SALT
★ CATALYST

This work is supported by SALT Catalyst.

THREE IDEAS TO TRANSFORM PRIMARY SCHOOLS

#3. Play as child's right

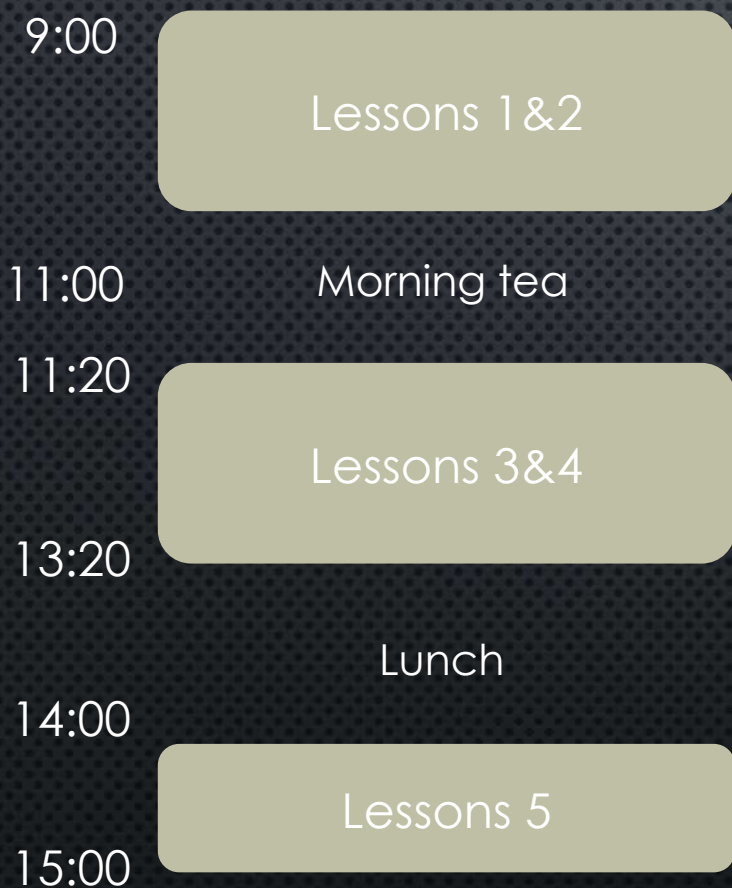
PLAY is integral to a child's education. The importance of playtime for children cannot be overemphasized to parents, schools, and community organizations.

85%

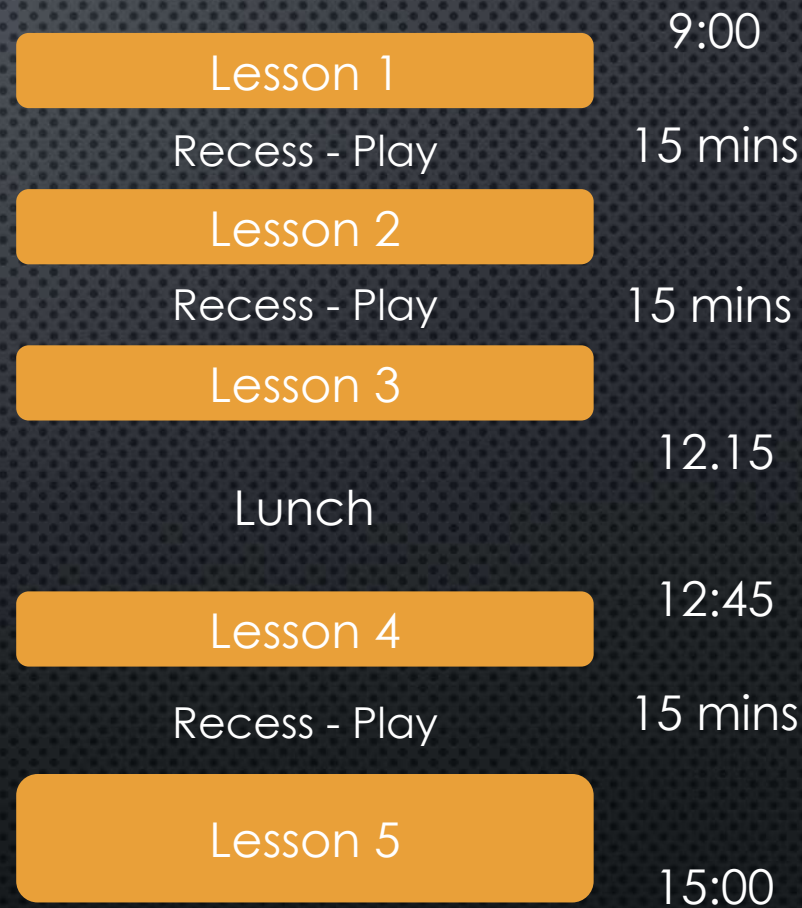
of parents say kids today spend less time **PLAY**ing than they did when they were their children's age.

THREE IDEAS TO TRANSFORM PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Current common practice



Alternate model





Sydney Opera House Play Award 2023

- **AN ANNUAL AWARD FOR AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS**
- **A RECOGNITION OF A PRACTICAL IDEA THAT POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTES TO CHILDREN'S LIVES THROUGH PLAY**
- **\$10,000 CASH AWARD TO ADVANCE CHILDHOOD PLAY AS PART OF PRIMARY EDUCATION**
- **ONLINE SUBMISSION OPENS IN AUGUST - DETAILS COMING SOON VIA SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE**

If not now, when?

If not you, who?

Thank you!