1. **How do schools that would meet the exit criteria for Priority and Focus Schools compare with those schools identified as Priority and Focus Schools? Is the difference meaningful enough to make the exit criteria meaningful?**

MDE has proposed that a Priority or Focus school that improves all four measures enough to be ranked above 25 percent of Title I schools (i.e., in the second or greater quartile) for two consecutive years may exit their Priority or Focus classification.

Attached, you will find summary data that illustrate the level of improvement that will be required for schools to exit Priority or Focus classification. A school that advances into the second quartile must exhibit large improvements across the Multiple Measures. For example, an elementary Priority school must meet a greater share of AYP targets (from 40% to about 93%), improve growth by about 0.35 standard deviation (from -0.46 to about -0.11 mean growth z-score), and reduce their contribution to achievement gaps by about 0.30 standard deviation (from 0.58 to about 0.28 mean growth gap z-score). Focus schools would also need to make meaningful improvements to justify exit. From a distribution-wide perspective, the boxplots reveal little overlap in the Multiple Measures between schools classified as Priority or Focus and schools in the second quartile. This indicates that Priority and Focus schools must ramp up their performance up to a distinctly higher level in order to exit.

Multiple Measures by school type and classification/quartile: Means

School	Classification/quartile	Proficiency	Growth	Gaps	Graduation
Elementary	Priority	40.39	-0.46	0.58	n/a
Elementary	Focus	60.38	-0.20	0.38	n/a
Elementary	Second quartile	93.09	-0.11	0.28	n/a
Jr./Mid.	Priority	35.04	-0.63	0.79	n/a
Jr./Mid.	Focus	45.81	-0.33	0.46	n/a
Jr./Mid.	Second quartile	61.33	-0.16	0.27	n/a
High School	Priority	24.55	-0.39	0.48	n/a
High School	Focus	38.39	-0.47	0.58	10.11
High School	Second quartile	66.24	-0.11	0.31	66.34
Other	Priority	35.03	-0.84	0.92	n/a
Other	Focus	18.81	-0.74	0.85	0.00
Other	Second quartile	20.97	-0.52	0.56	0.00