

## **Collaboration for Educational Excellence**

### **Terri Adelman, Inspiring Minds**

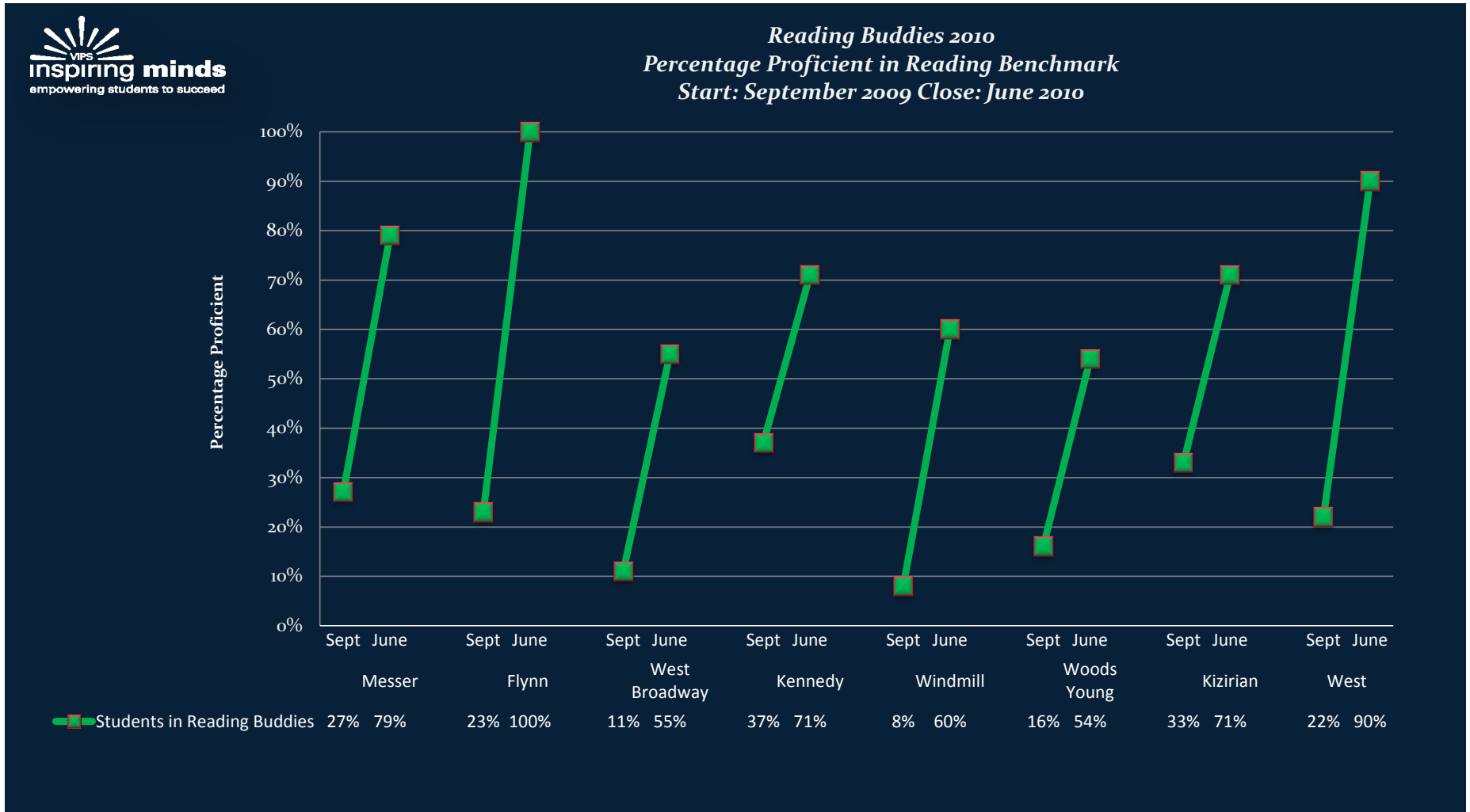
The Collaboration for Educational Excellence (CEE) is a joint venture of Inspiring Minds, Rhode Island College (RIC) and the Providence Public School district. The partnership was established because Providence Public Schools students need additional assistance to improve their literacy and math skills. RIC students enrolled in teacher education courses, following national studies and surveyed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> year teachers in the Providence Public Schools, need more experiential learning opportunities. The partnership is a win win.

Designed to optimize the learning experience of both sets of students, intense training and monitoring are non-negotiable factor for RIC students. Armed with knowledge on how young students learn to read, RIC students provide individual or small group academic tutoring. Young students increase their academic performance while future teachers are introduced to the opportunities and challenges of working in an urban school district. They begin to understand the urban students they will teach.

The Rhode Island College CEE pilot was launched in 1999 with 30 students. Today, more than 500 Rhode Island College students successfully complete volunteer placements with Inspiring Minds on an annual basis. In the past 11 years, Nearly 4,000 RIC students have supported the academic needs of 12,000 Providence Public students accounting for 60,000 hours of community service. Although a course component, many students serve far beyond the required time. The outcome data is clear. Future teachers at Rhode Island College students are having a significant impact on raising student achievement in Providence Schools.

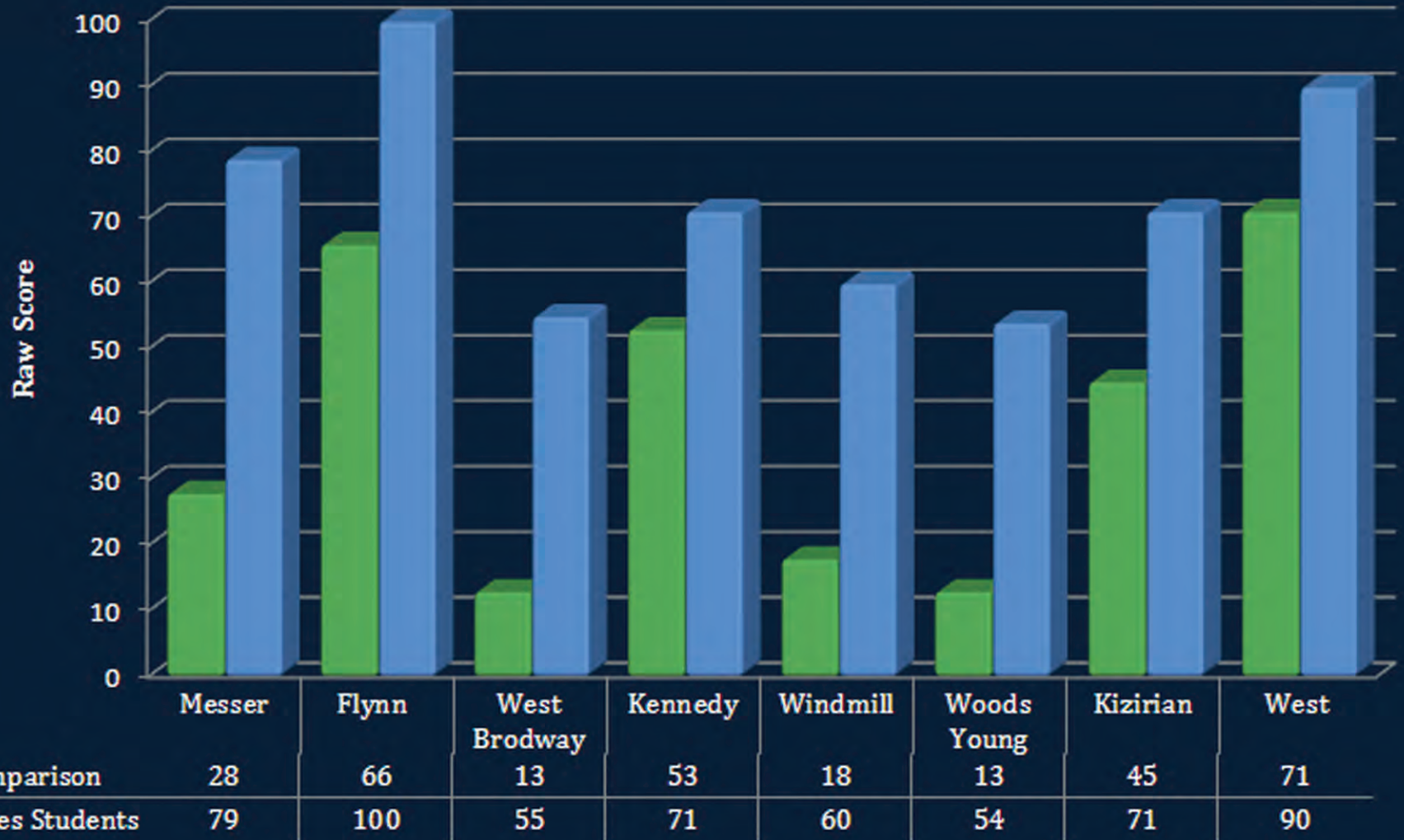
See Impact charts on the next page

This is a report provided by Inspiring Minds (VIPS), <http://www.vips4kids.org>.  
 The data demonstrate significant impact of the Reading Buddies program, which uses RIC teacher candidates



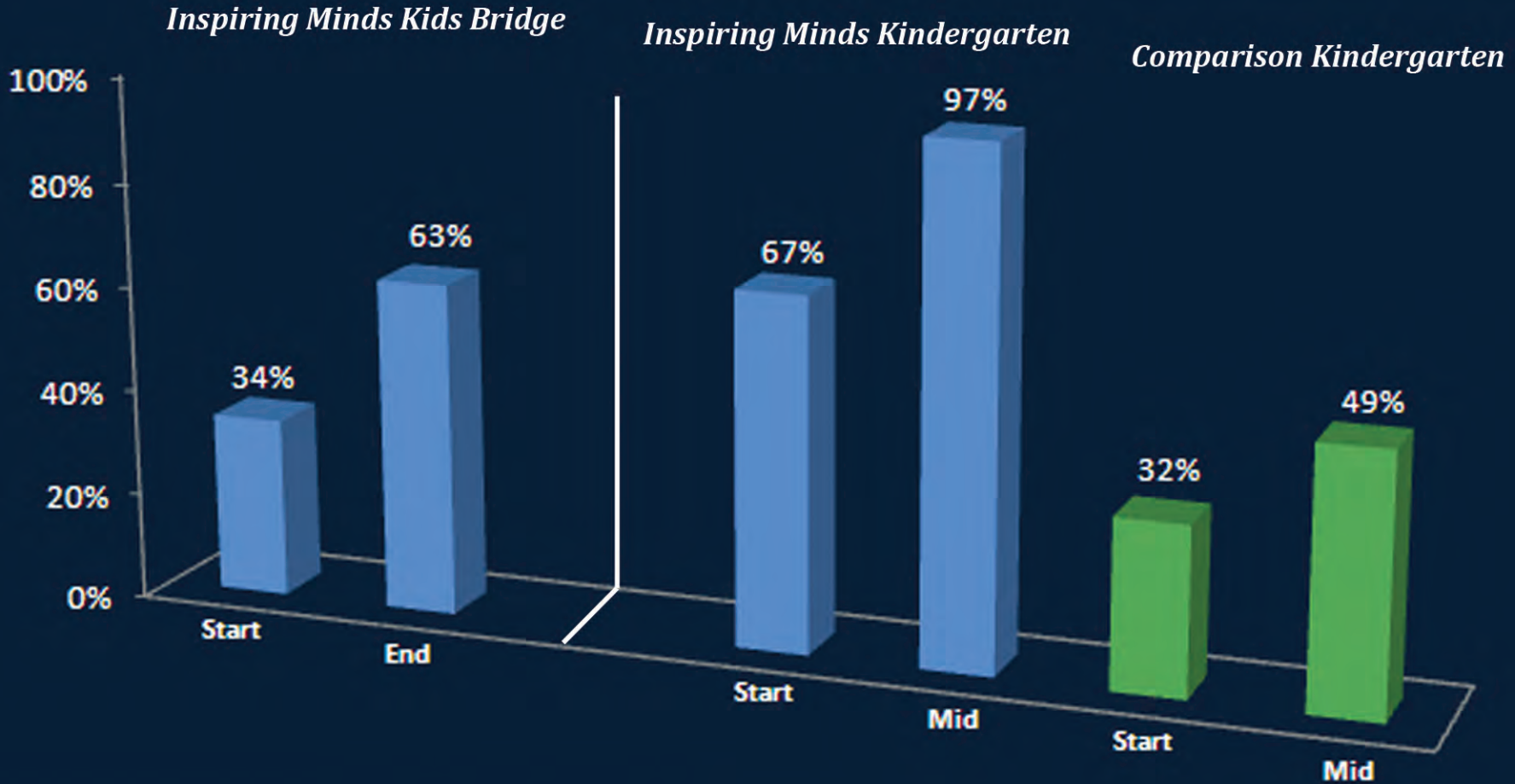
## *Reading Buddies 2009-2010*

### *Percentage Proficient in Reading Benchmark*



*Reading Buddies is a year-long academic intervention for students in grades K-3. The program is designed and implemented by IM. The chart reflects the percentage of the 550 students who attained core literacy skill proficiency from the beginning of the school year to the end of the school year 2009-2010.*

## Asa Messer Annex: Core Reading Skill Growth Kids Bridge Comparison



*Kids Bridge is a four week K readiness program designed and implemented by IM. The chart reflects growth in core literacy skills for 18 students in the program over the four weeks and their ongoing progress throughout the first half of the 2010 school year. Of the 18 KB students, 16 are receiving ongoing academic interventions through IM.*