What Is VIPS Up Against?

May 15, 2017
Poverty and Children

- In 2014, 22% of children lived in poverty, up from 18% in 2008.

- In Baton Rouge, 29.9% of children lived in poverty in 2015. (city-data.com)
4th graders not reading proficient nationwide.

2015 EBRPSS Basic or Below

66%

2015

65%
8th graders not math proficient

2015 EBRPSS Basic or Below

70%

2015

68%*

*2013 had 66%
Great News!

Louisiana is NOT last in education in the country!

Less Great News

We’re….  

45th!
School to Prison Pipeline
Overview & History

- Series of policies that make it more likely that disadvantaged youth will have a criminal record before graduating.
- These policies often make it harder for students to improve later.
Zero Tolerance Policies & The Police

- Zero Tolerance policies and police in schools in the 1990’s.
- Police became disciplinarians and behavior issues became criminal offences.
Results

- Suspended students fall behind and disengage from school
- Disengaged students are more likely to get in trouble.
- More students now start their adult lives with a criminal record.
Recent Statistics on Youth Incarceration

- 8.6% of students are identified as having a learning disability. 32% of youth in juvenile detention centers have been identified as having a learning disability.
The VIPS Impact

Why we do what do
Test Scores

Pre Test  Post Test

Matched Students

Unmatched Students
Why does it work?

Reading and Math Friends:
› Provide one-on-one attention
› Tailor tutoring to the student’s needs
› Encourage confidence and self-esteem
› Often provide books for students to enjoy at home, where they can practice reading.
What else?

- At Magnolia Woods, VIPS volunteers were credited with cutting the number of students held back in Kindergarten in half. Due to their work with students and support for school faculty.
Reading & Development?

Our students have 3 or fewer books at home to read! Reading Friends regularly provide books to students:

- Reading increases vocabulary
- Reading increases test scores
- Reading fiction increases empathy
Mentored students missed 20% fewer days than those considered “at-risk” who did not receive mentoring.

The study also found significantly fewer classes were failed during the 2 year study.

*The Effect of Mentoring on School Attendance and Academic Outcomes: A Randomized Evaluation of the Check & Connect Program, November 2016*
Dallas has gained confidence in reading aloud. He is doing well with his AR quizzes, and his teacher has noticed improvement in his reading.

—Robin Krumholt

“In our one session together, I watched Fabio's confidence increase tremendously! He was very shy at first. I could hardly hear him when he read initially, but by the time we finished our first visit he was so excited about reading and talking to me!”

—Maddie Dunbar, Reading Friend
Dear Mr. Marc
I appreciate you coming and reading with me. It was so nice of you to give me the books to read at home, my favorite one was Room on the Broom! you are the best reading friend! you are

Your friend,
Justus