

LITERACY
INSTRUCTION IN
BILLINGS PUBLIC
SCHOOLS



Purpose of Presentation

- Overview of Literacy
- Classroom Instruction Including Assessment
- Professional Development
- Interventions

Our Students

Primary

Grades K-3

Intermediate

Grades 4-6

Middle School

Grades 7-8

Secondary

Grades 9-12

- Billings Public Schools strives to ensure work force and college ready literacy skills for all students



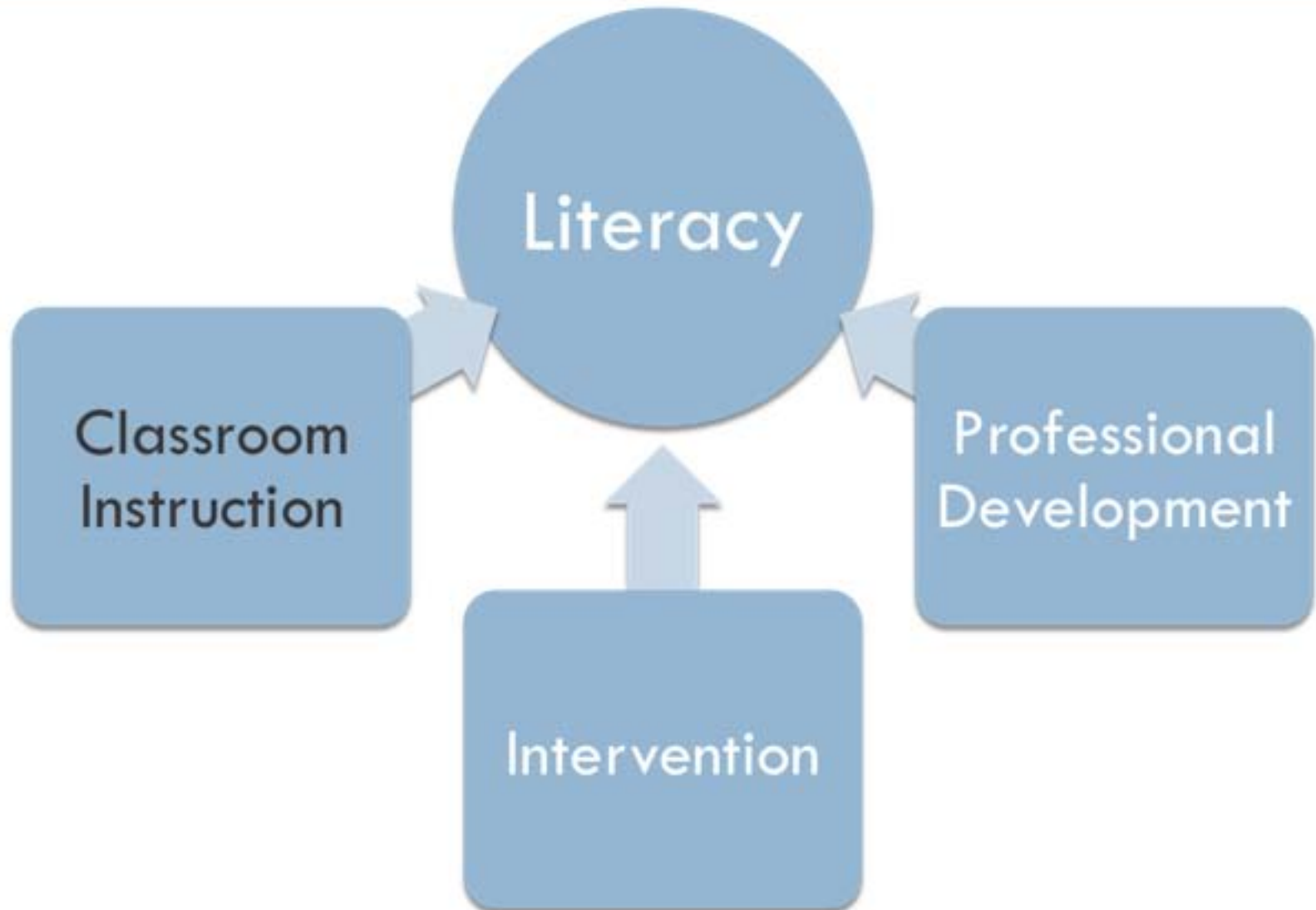
Contributors to Literacy

- Parents
- Students
- School

Components of Literacy in Elementary Grades



Components of Literacy in Elementary Grades



Literacy Instruction Today

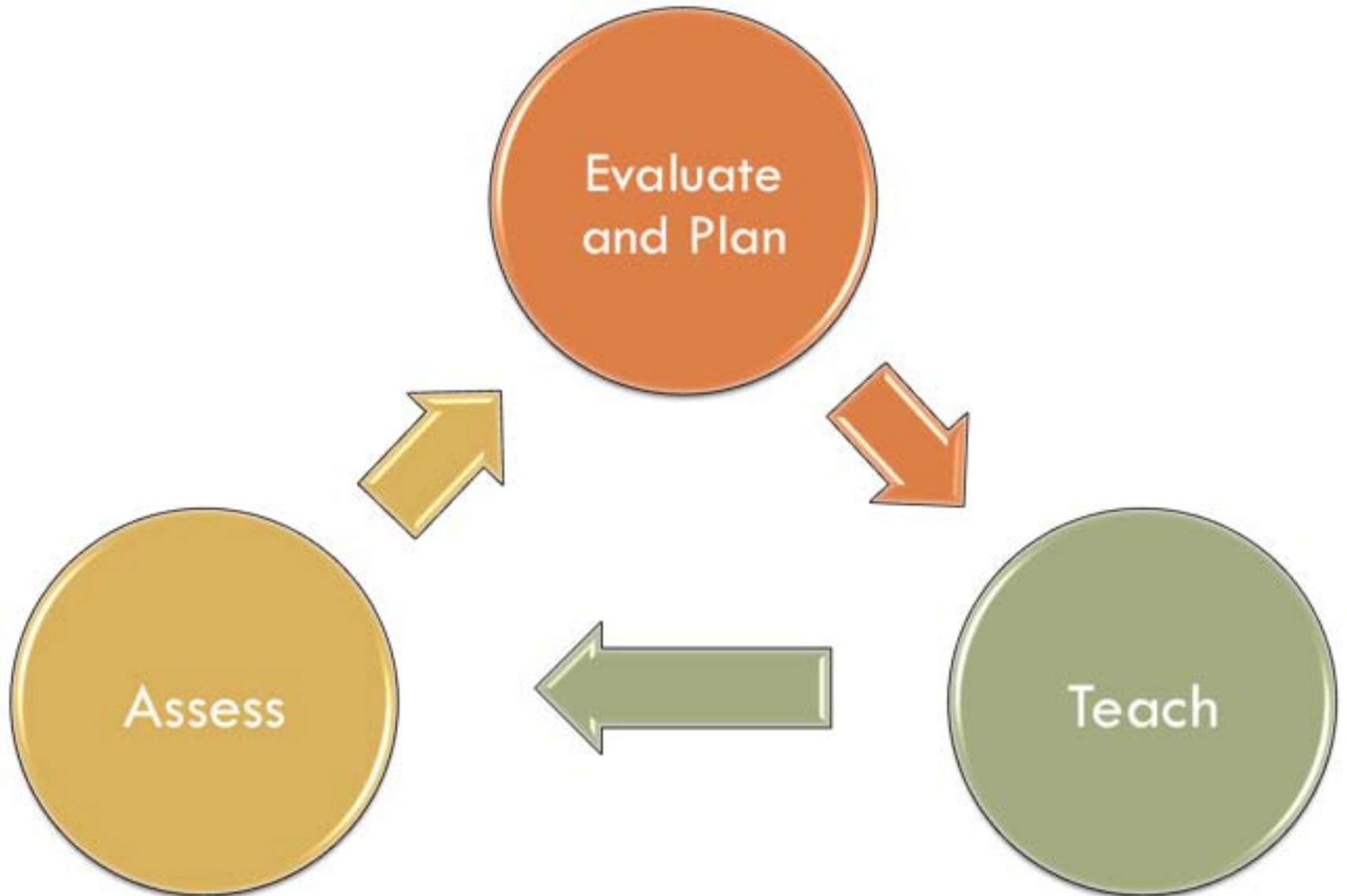
National Reading Panel in 2000:

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Fluency
- Comprehension Strategies
- Vocabulary Instruction

National Reading Panel in 2010 added:

- Writing
- Background Knowledge
- Engagement

The Learning Cycle

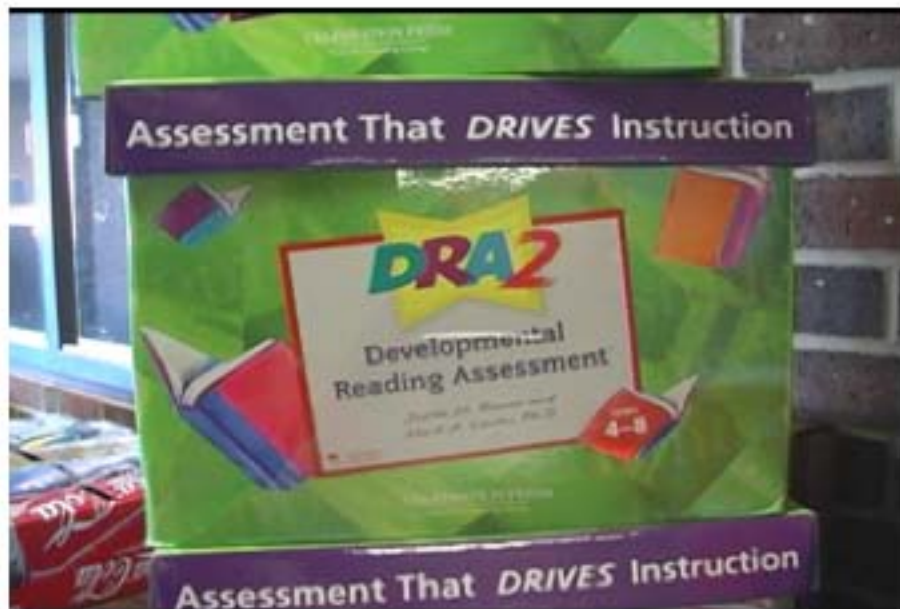


Monitoring Growth

Assessment helps guide instruction and ensure that each child is making appropriate growth

We want to see **growth in each and every student**





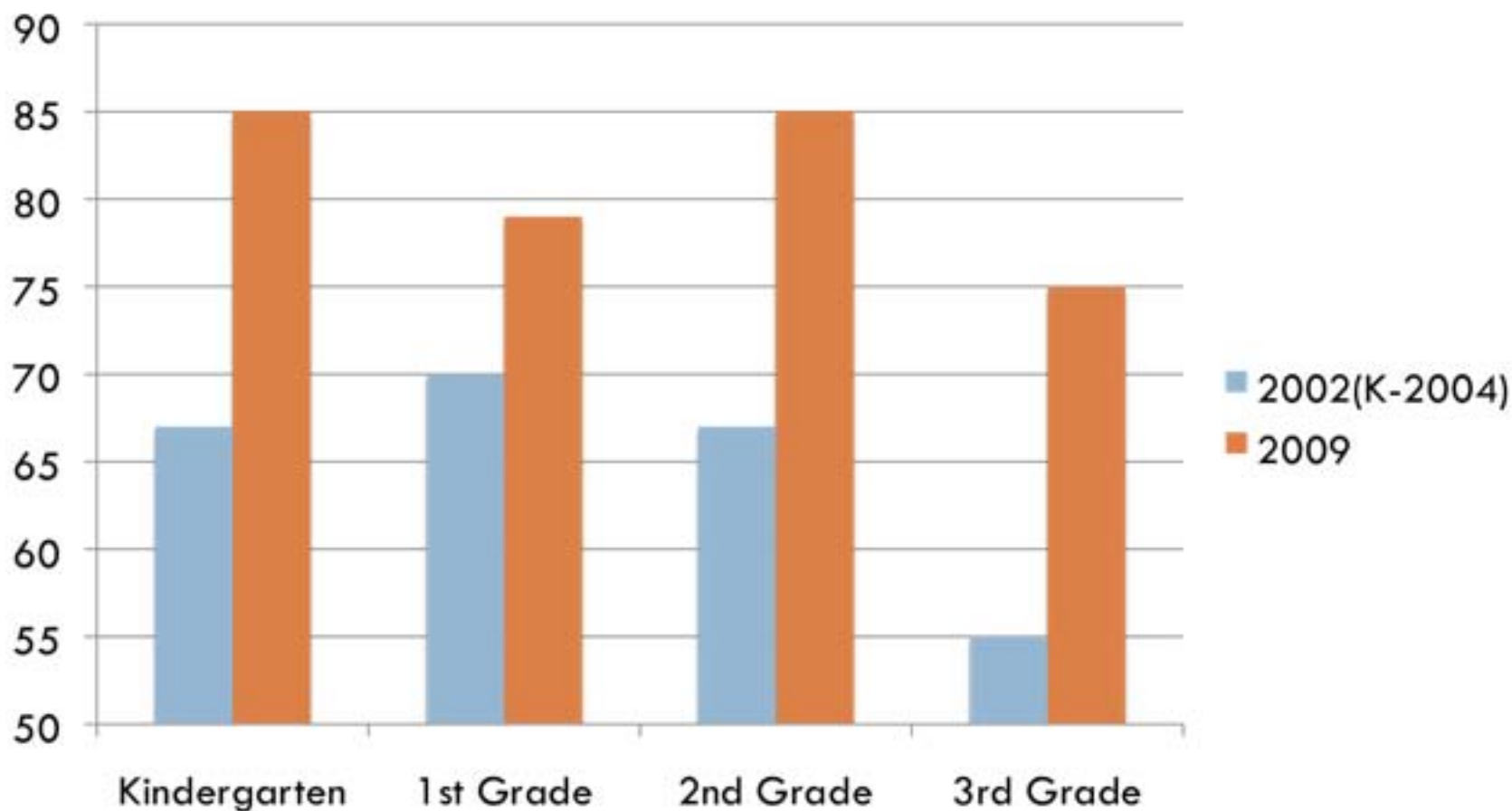
K-3 Reading Assessment

Developmental Reading Assessment

- Measures
 - Reading level
 - Knowledge of phonics
 - Comprehension
 - Fluency

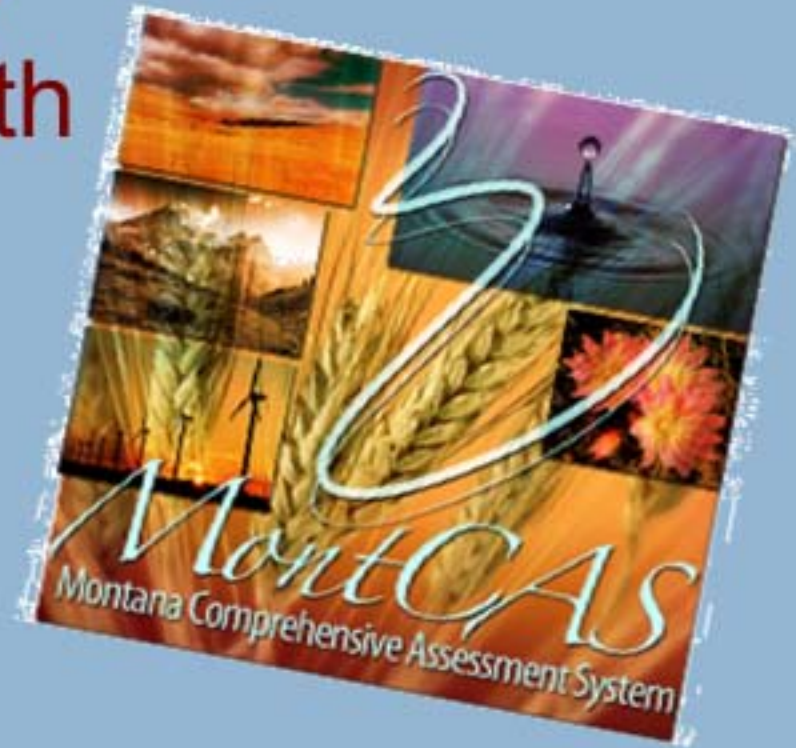
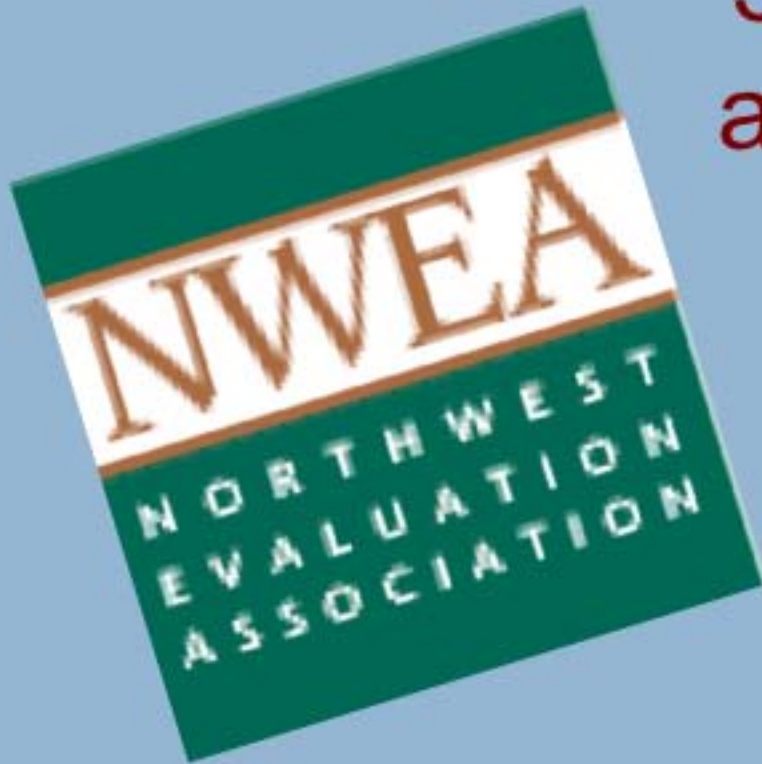
Billings Public Schools DRA Data

Percent of Students Proficient or Advanced in Reading



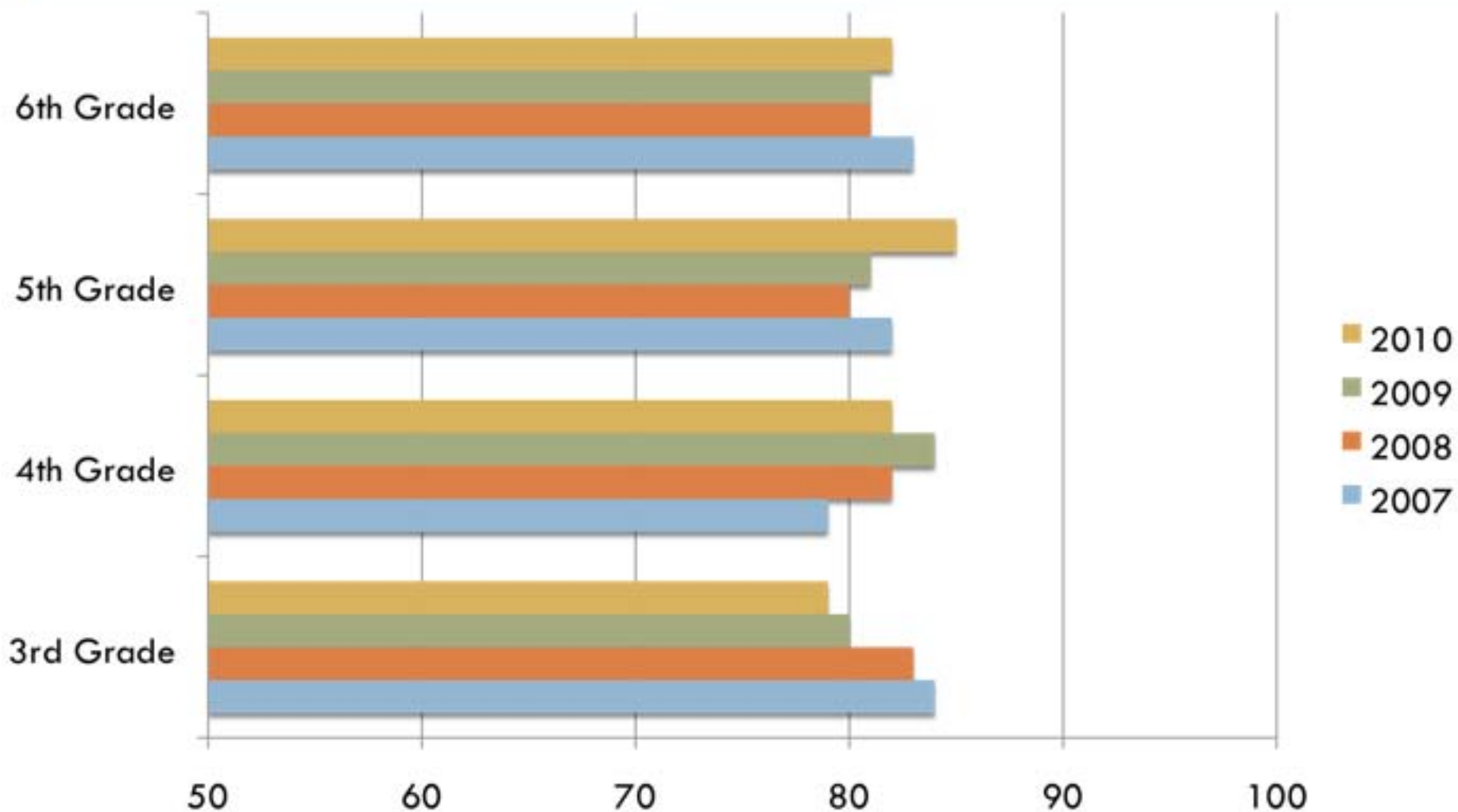
Standardized Assessments

3rd to 8th
and 10th

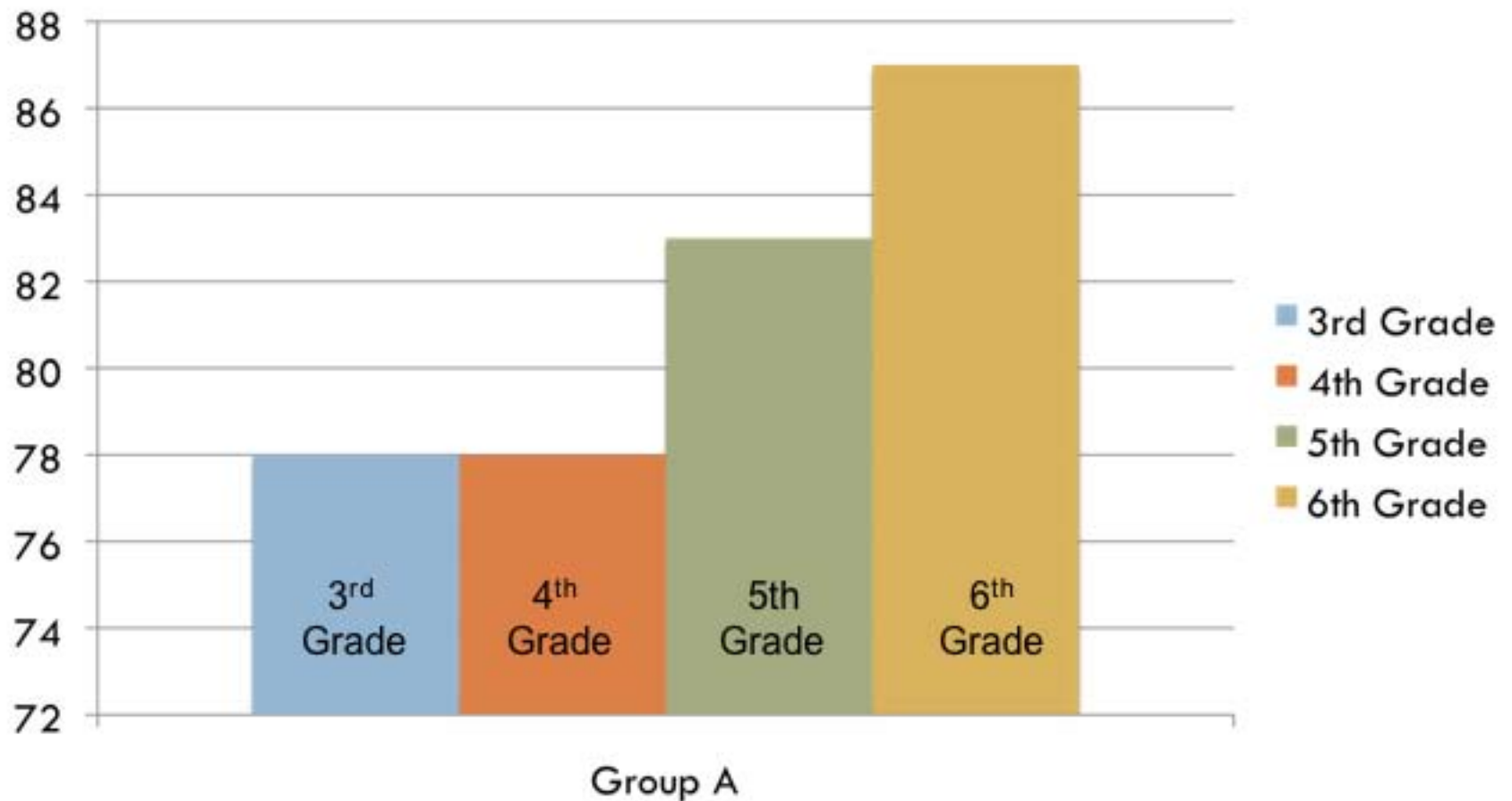


- Aligns to Montana state standards
- Our curriculum is based on state standards

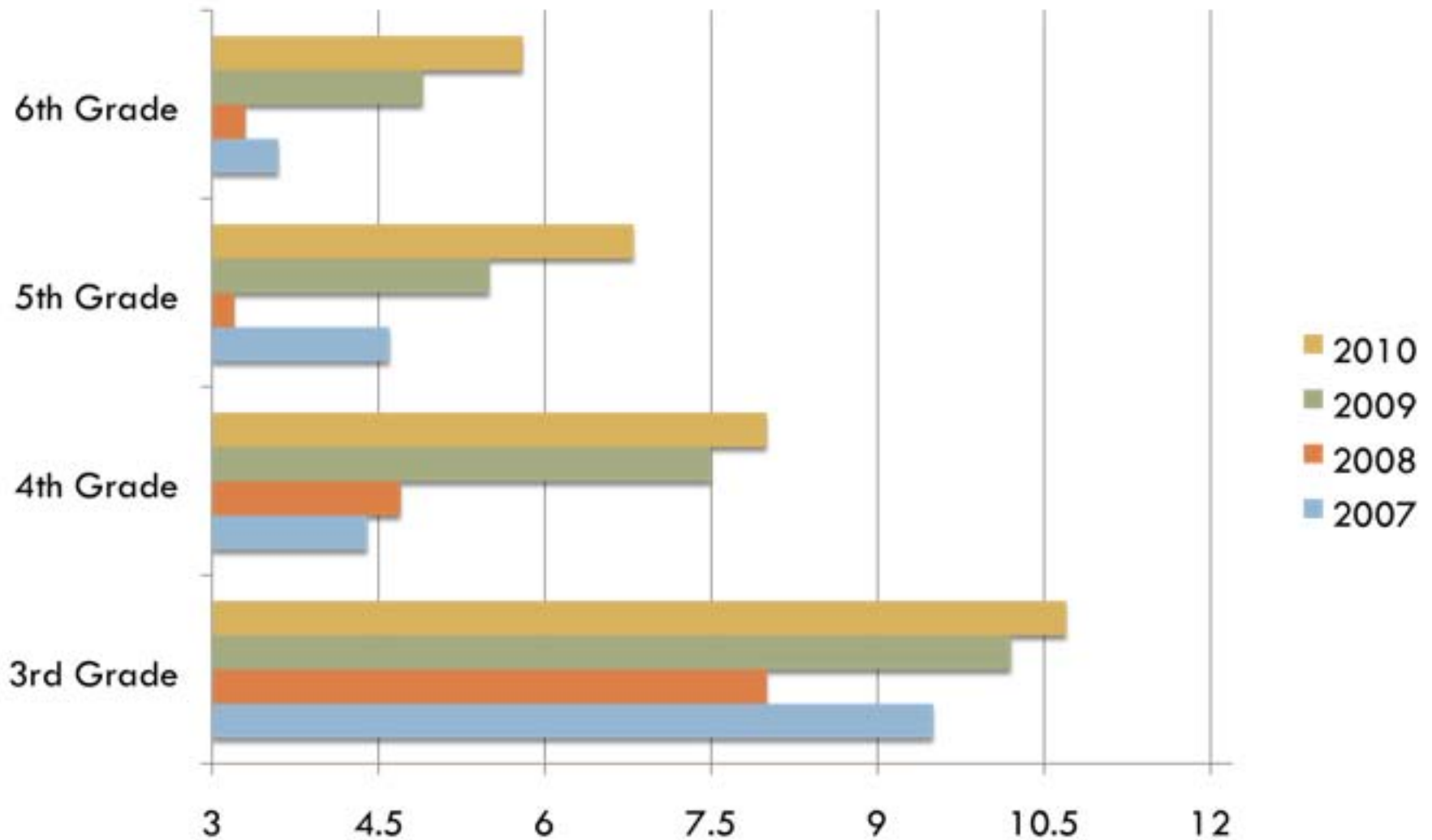
NWEA: % Proficient or Advanced



MontCAS: Proficient or Advanced One Grade Level Over Four Years



NWEA: Average RIT Growth



Middle and High School

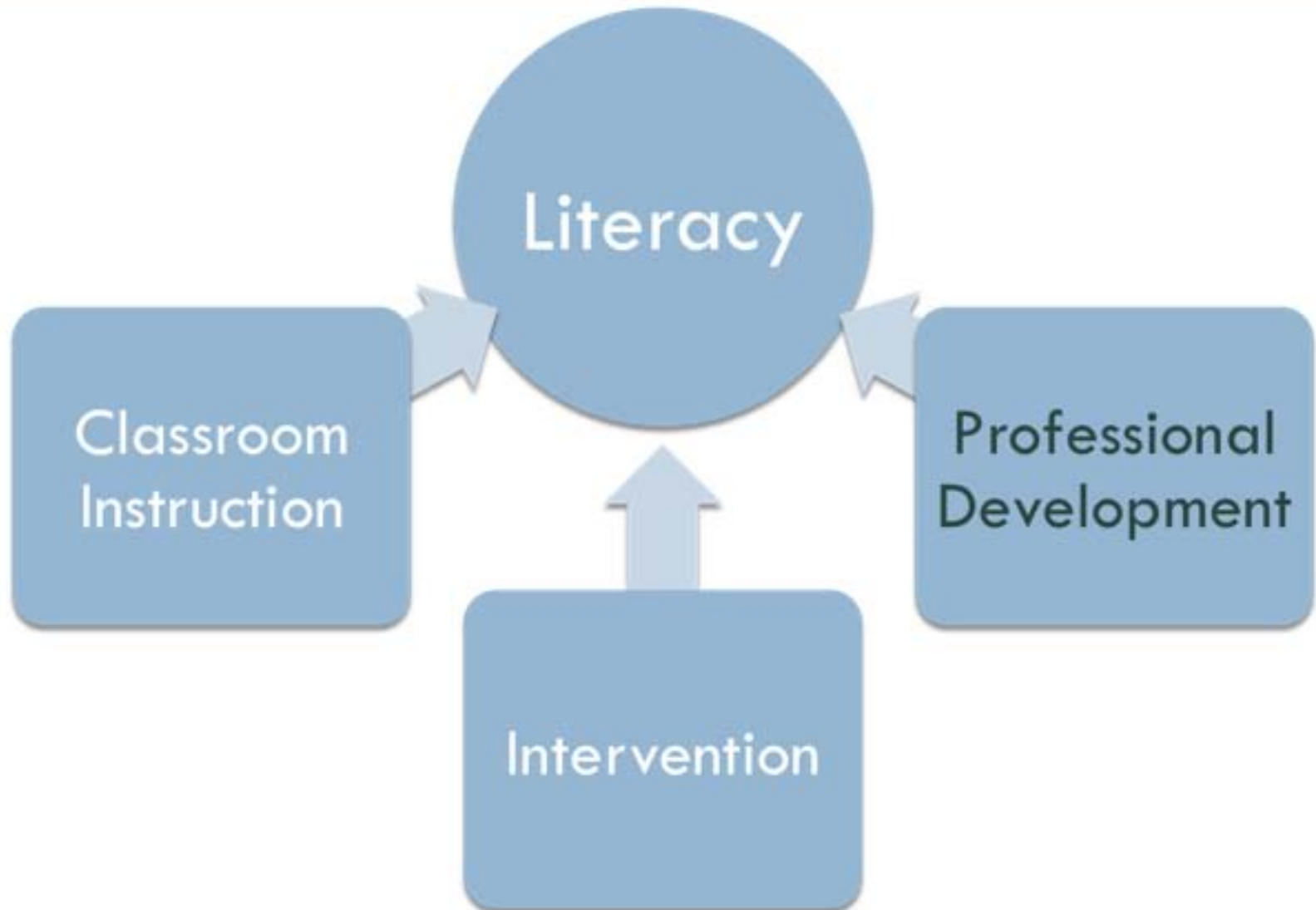
- Students continue literacy study through English classes
- Graduation requirement for BPS is four years of High School English
- MontCAS: 2006-2010
 - ▣ 78%-82% Proficient or Advanced



Professional Development

Billings Public Schools

Components of Literacy in Elementary Grades



“Educators at all levels need just-in-time, job embedded assistance as they struggle to adapt new curricula and new instructional practices to their unique classroom contexts.”

-- Guskey and Yoon, 2009

K-6 Instructional Coaches

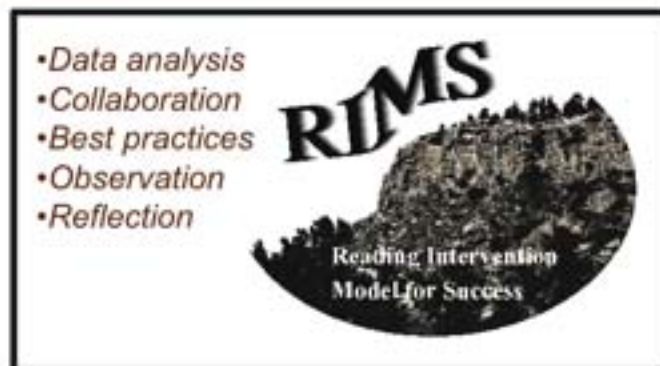
As requested by the district, teachers and principals

- Facilitate grade band meetings
- Deliver instruction at staff meetings
- Support school initiatives and five-year plan goals
- Provide Early Release Professional Development Opportunities
- Provide Summer Professional Development Opportunities

Interventionist Training

□ RIMS

- ▣ Training 15 teachers
- ▣ Impacting 220 students



□ Read 180, System 44, and Language!

- ▣ Training 68 teachers
- ▣ Impacting 1,201 students



LANGUAGE!

Professional Development: Primary and Intermediate

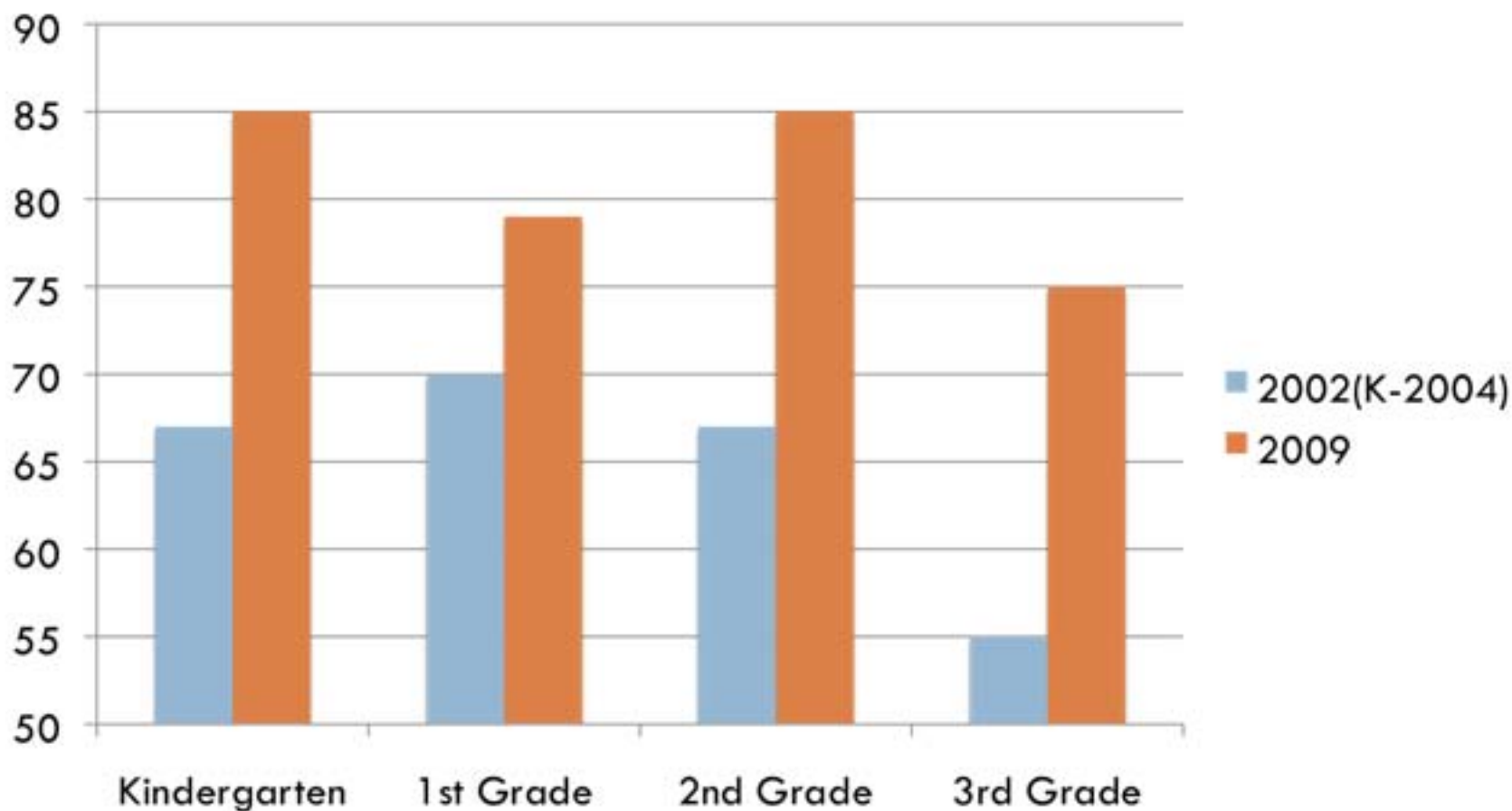
Literacy

- New teachers to the district or grade level
- Two-year Literacy Training
- Research based best practices for reading
- Embedded professional development and
- Writing Training
- Training 62 teachers; impacting 1,686 students

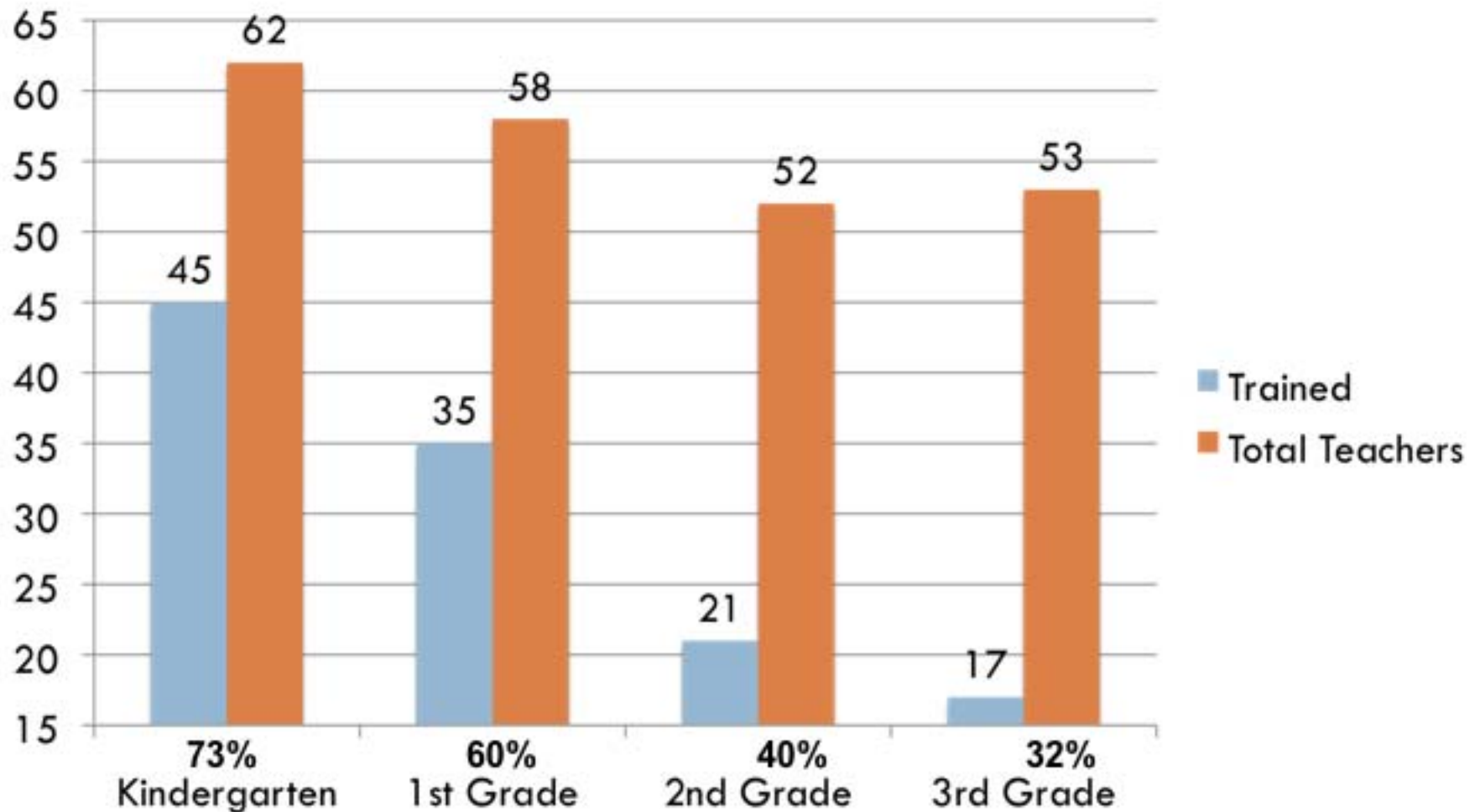


Billings Public Schools DRA Data

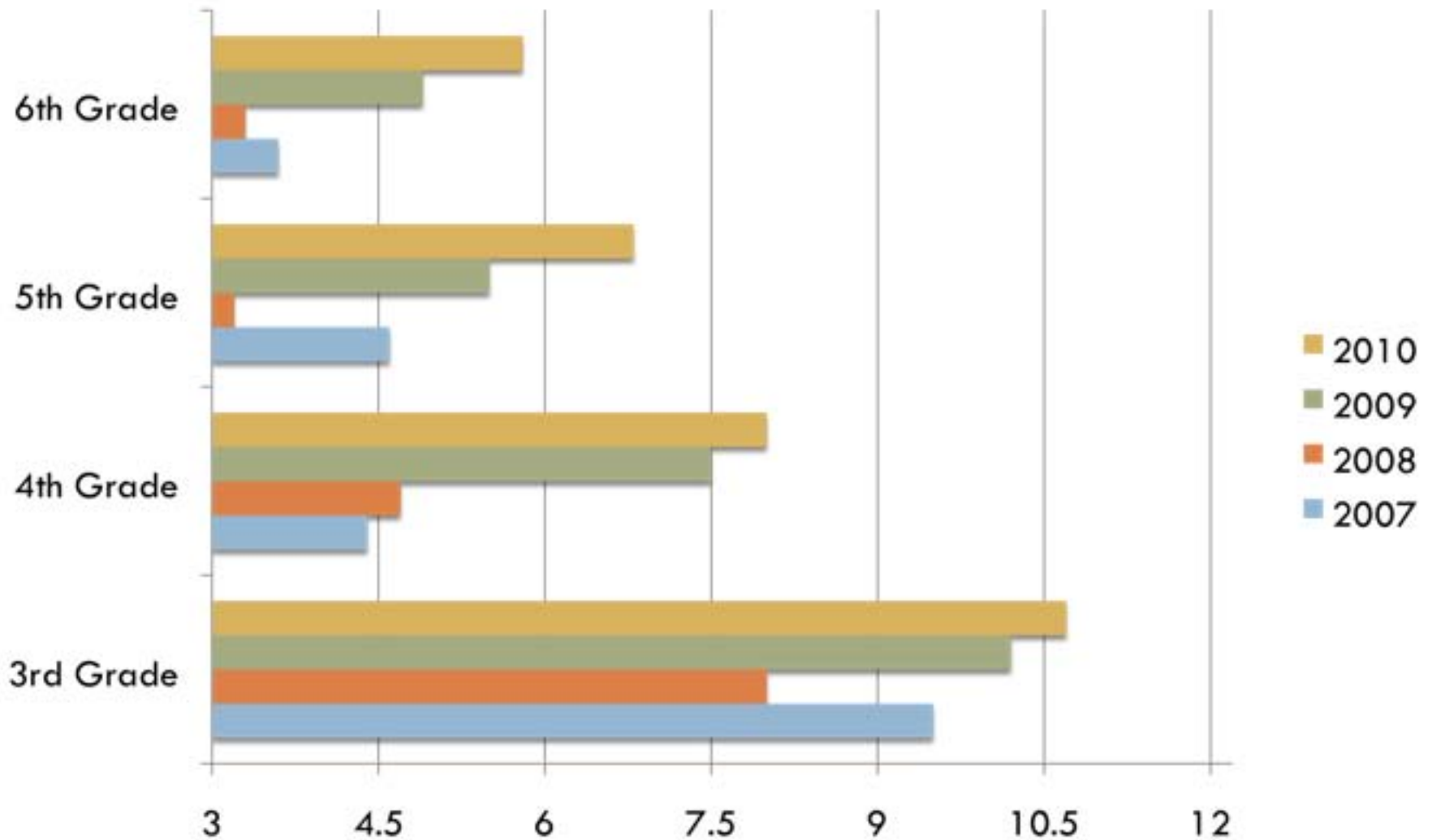
Percent of Students Proficient or Advanced in Reading



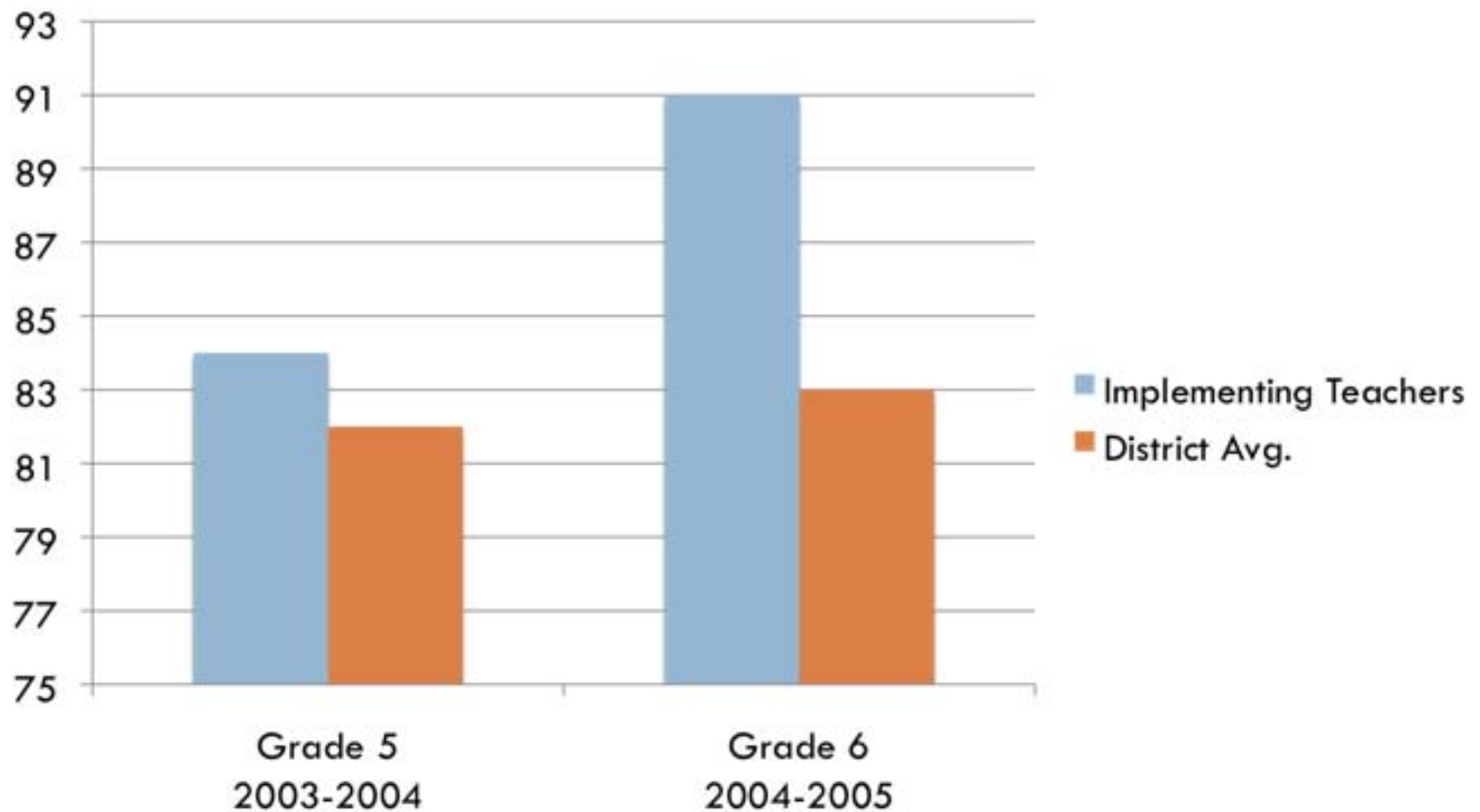
Primary Teachers Trained as of 2008



NWEA: Average RIT Growth

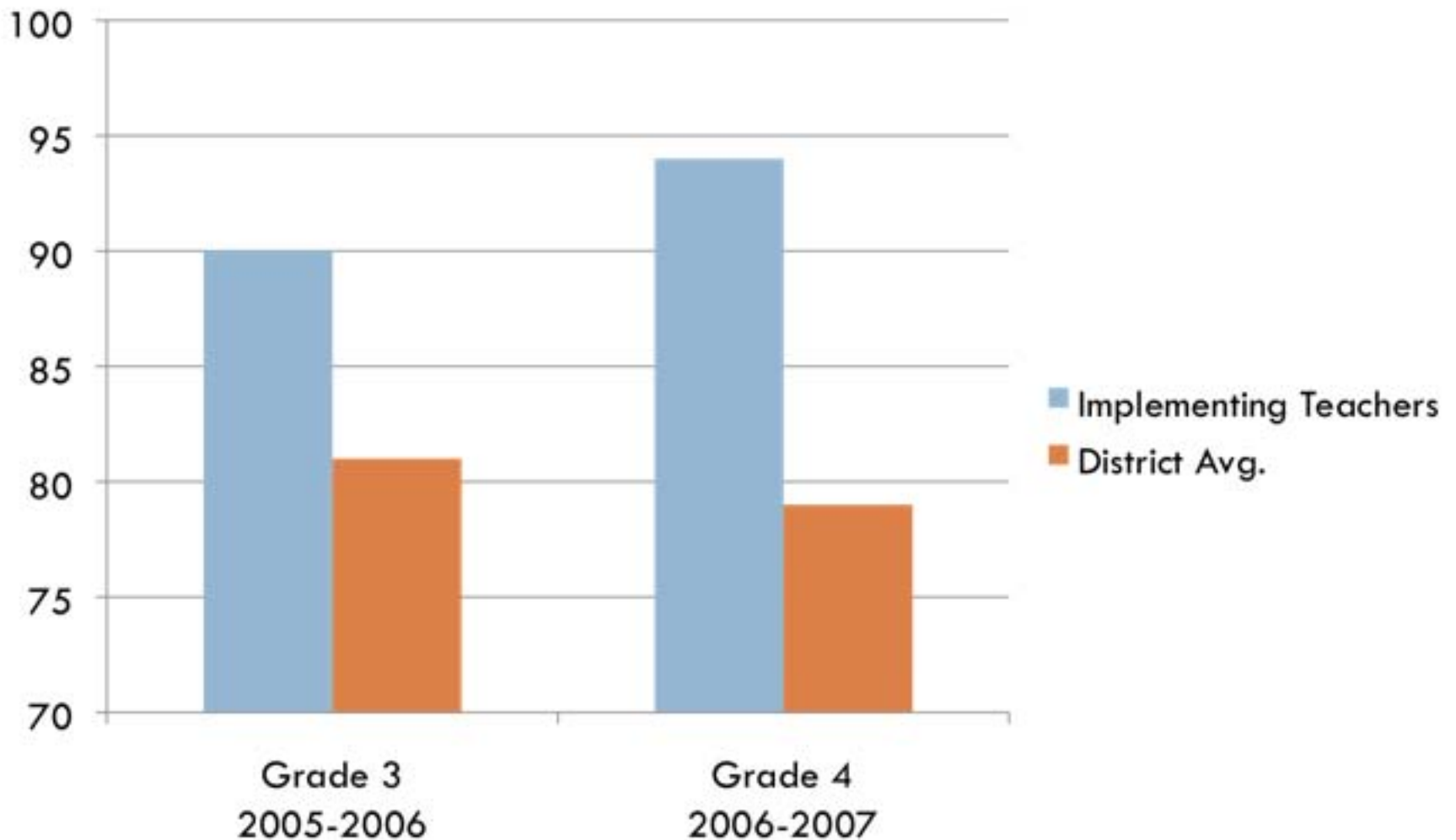


Fidelity to Training: Students scoring proficient or advanced



Fidelity to Training:

Students scoring proficient or advanced



Embedded Instructional Coaching:

Coaching for change leading to increased student achievement

Coaching Cycle

- Pre-planning
- Modeling, Co-teaching, or Observing
- Reflecting

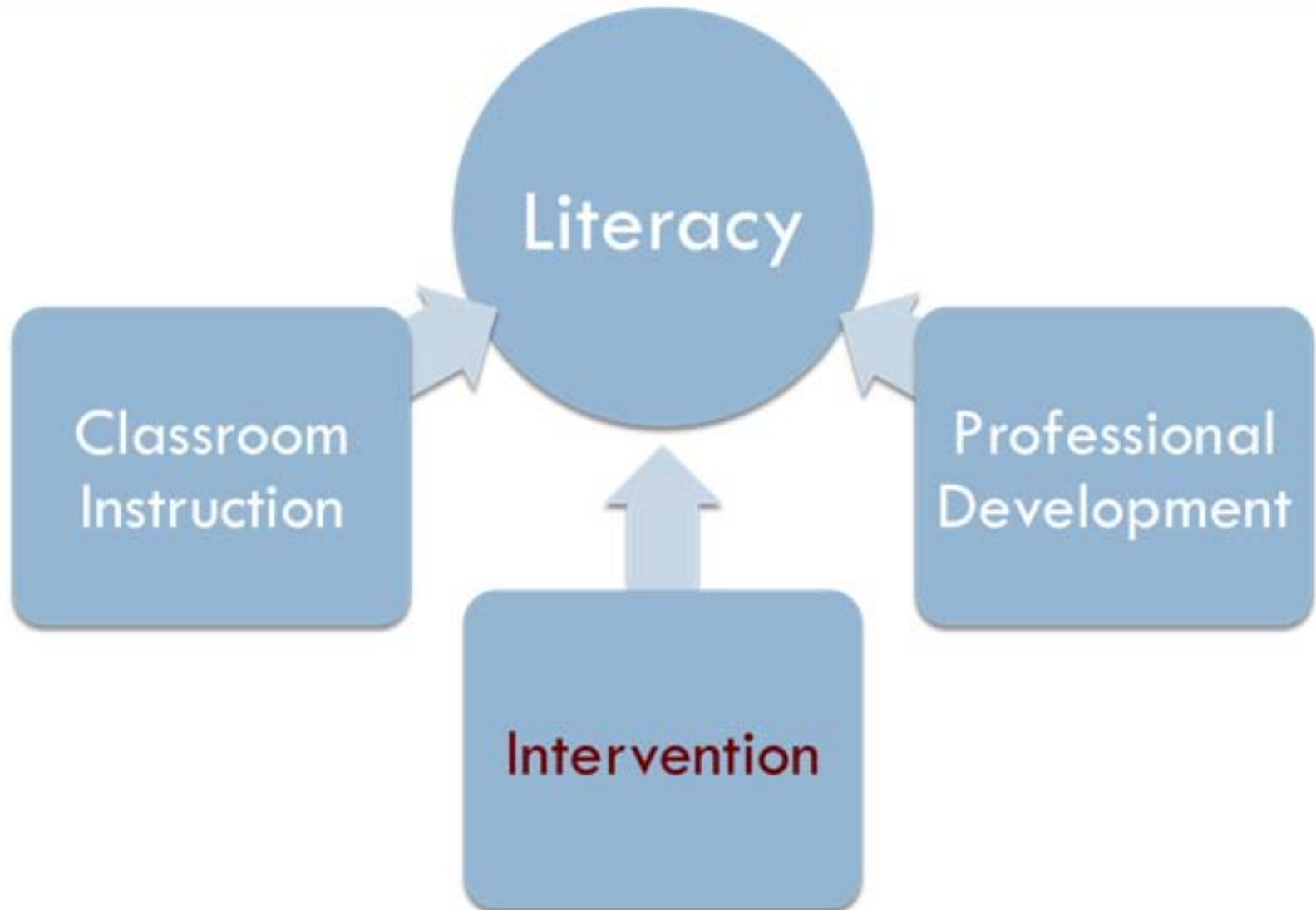
One on one or small group

- Curriculum planning and pacing
- Data Analysis
- Intervention planning and scheduling

Interventions

WHAT IF...despite all our best efforts a child isn't reading at the level expected for their age?

Components of Literacy in Elementary Grades



Intervention in Grades K-3

- Half time interventionist in each building
- Instruction based on needs of the school and students
- Small group and/or individual instruction
- Teaching methods are research based
- Teachers receive additional ongoing

Intervention in Grades 4-12

- Read 180– Grades 4-12
 - Students scoring below the 35th percentile
- System 44– Grades 4-12
 - Students scoring below the 16th percentile
- Language!– Grades 4-8
 - Students scoring below the 16th percentile
- Corrective Reading– Grades 4-6
 - Students who have not experienced success in other interventions

Intervention students at Castle Rock



The Instructional Model

20 minutes

20 minutes



20 minutes

10 minutes

20 minutes

Results

06-07	
ELEM	196
MS	128
HS	79

07-08	
ELEM	193
MS	99
HS	102

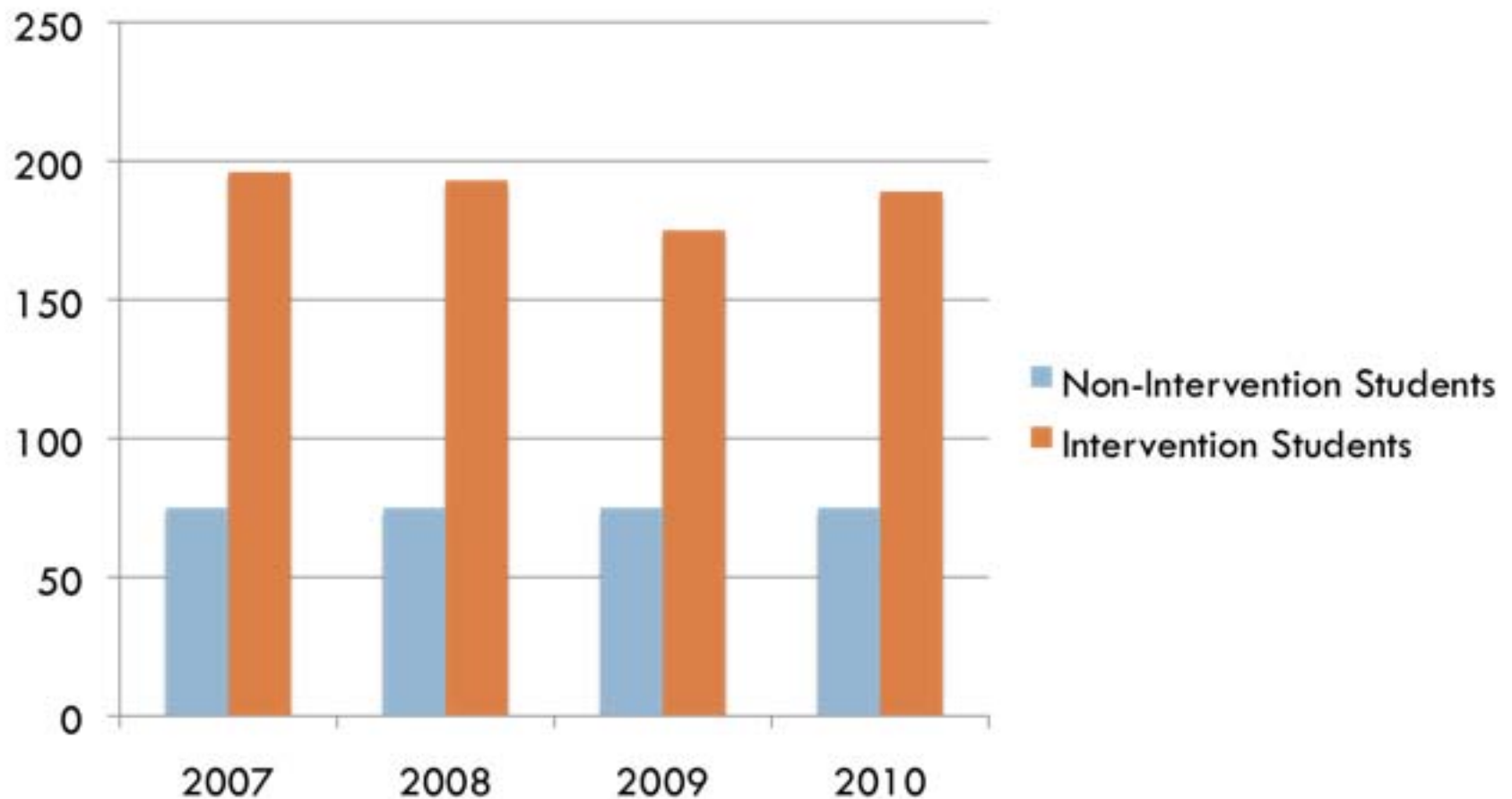
08-09	
ELEM	175
MS	122
HS	117

09-10	
ELEM	189
MS	130
HS	105

Population	Targeted Lexile Growth
Elementary Read 180	156-260
Middle School Read 180	104-156
High School Read 180	56-104
Non-intervention students	75-100

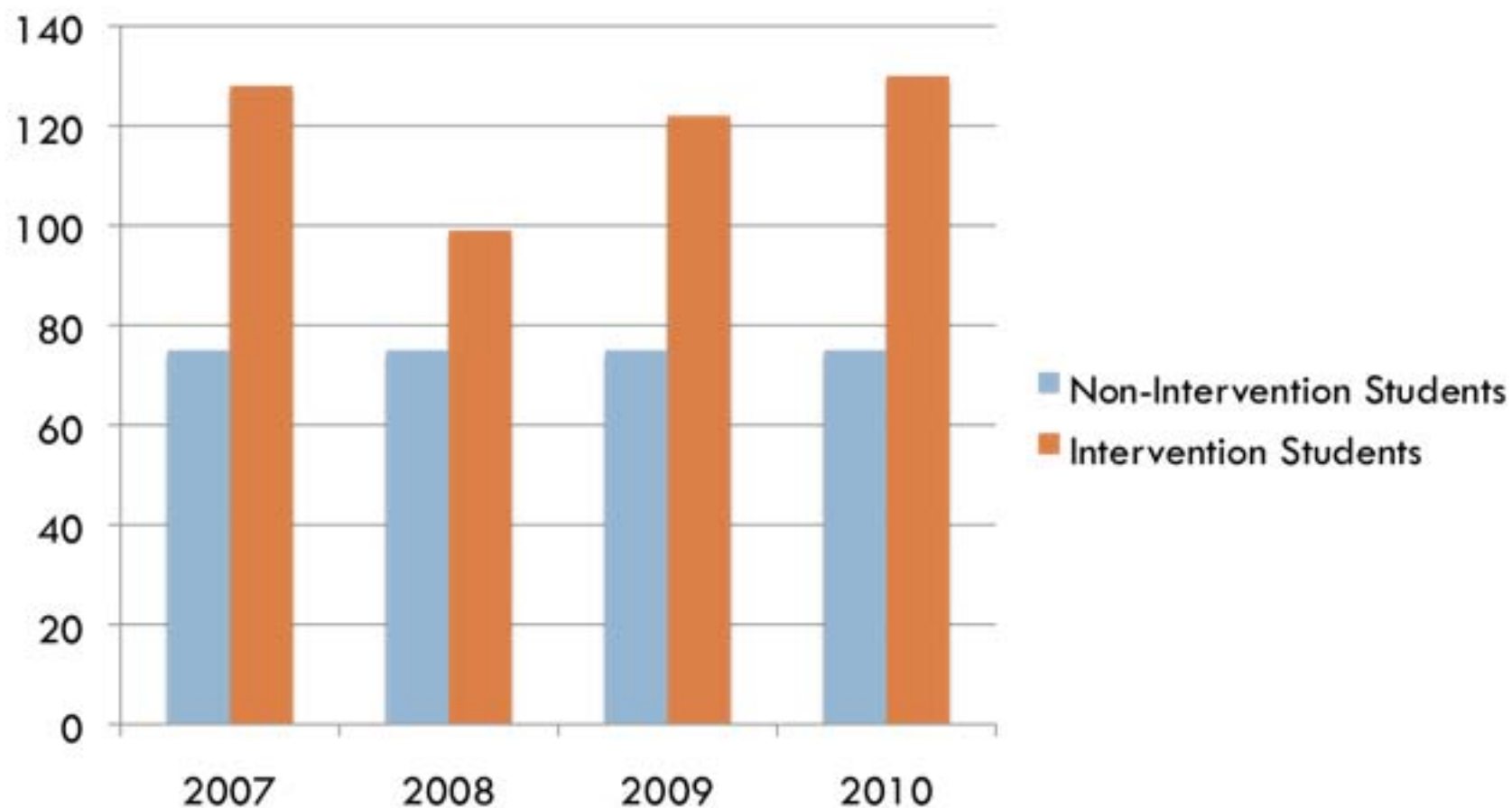
READ 180 Results– Elementary

Average Lexile Growth



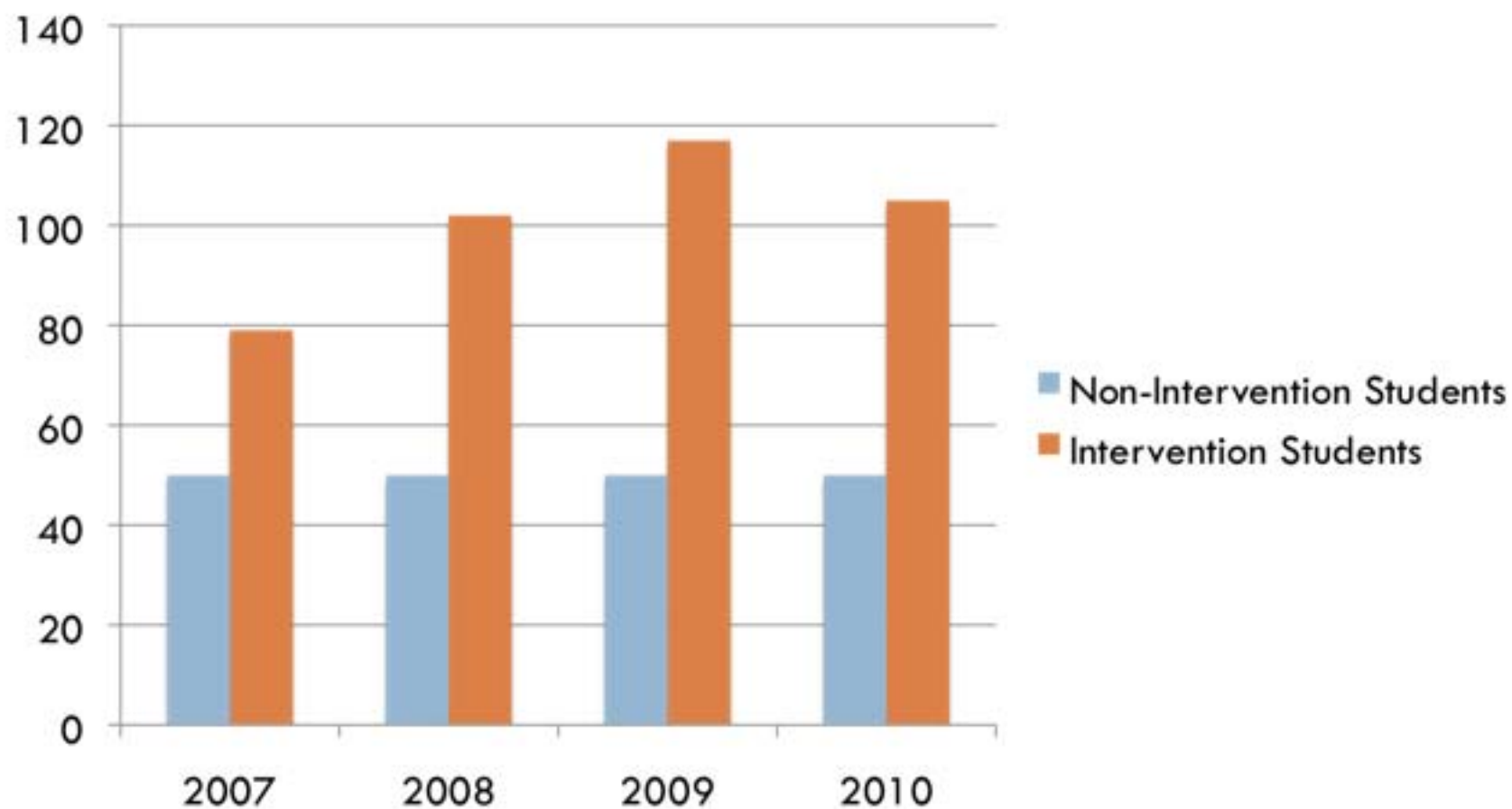
READ 180 Results– Middle School

Average Lexile Growth



READ 180 Results– High School

Average Lexile Growth



Quotes From Teachers:

“(Coach) continually provides materials and resources, as well as motivation to deliver high quality instruction...”

“I love being stretched where I would never go on my own!”

“I am excited to get year two of training.”

“The time spent with my coach has been the most valuable training I have received in the district.”

“(The coaches) are our link to best practices.”

“I have been able to see my students grow in their reading comprehension...”

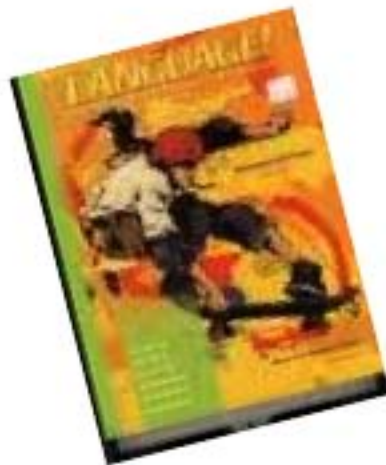
“I learn and improve every time (coach) spends time with me.

“This profession can be so overwhelming at times...It is nice to know I have ongoing access to the support I need.”

LANGUAGE!

The Comprehensive Literacy Curriculum:

- Is for struggling readers, writers, speakers, and spellers scoring below the 16th percentile
- Provides explicit, systematic, research-based instruction
- BPS uses this intervention in middle schools and some elementary schools.



A large blue circular graphic with a white gradient. Inside the circle, the word "SYSTEM" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font at the top, and the number "44" is written in a much larger white, uppercase, sans-serif font below it. The circle has a subtle drop shadow.

a breakthrough reading program, specially designed to help older struggling readers unlock the system and master the 44 sounds in the English language so they too can join the community of readers