

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What makes Generation ReadySM different from other professional development companies and/or consultants?

Generation ReadySM gives educators a partner with more than 20 years of experience who shares their passion for helping students succeed. Our education consultants are successful teachers and leaders who have a global perspective, understand the challenges educators face and are dedicated to elevating student achievement. Generation ReadySM is also one of the largest and most respected professional development companies in the country and offers a unique, integrated system of best practices methodology and online technology to support teachers and principals.

2. What does your company do once contracted by a school or district?

Every school is different and faces unique challenges. First, our education consultants undertake a needs assessment to analyze what is or isn't working in a school district or school. Our team then builds a customized professional development plan, based on the school or district's identified needs, and works side-by-side with teachers toward identified goals. Our unique ReadyPathSM software monitors progress against these goals so district, school, and teachers are in alignment.

3. How can a big city company have the experience needed to make a difference in a rural community?

While it's true that urban and rural schools have distinct challenges, the barriers to learning are remarkably similar. Generation ReadySM is unique because of its 20 years' experience working with both urban and rural schools, with a proven, successful track record in both. We also have education consultants who live and work in all parts of the country.

4. How do you overcome teachers' resistance to having an outside partner in their schools?

Initially, teachers may resist bringing in an outsider who will push them to think and act differently. Our job is to enter that classroom as a guest and treat teachers with respect. We make it clear that we are not there to evaluate or criticize but to support. We emphasize that, by working together, we'll make their job easier and realize the outcomes they would like to achieve. Our education consultants end up being trusted partners and mentors. Teachers quickly realize that they are not being evaluated by the education consultant but rather supported.

5. What is your definition of teacher effectiveness?

It is not about teacher effectiveness but about effective teaching. The most powerful ways for teachers to raise student achievement are through ongoing, job-embedded, collaborative, professional learning. Teachers need to be reflective practitioners and comfortable implementing a wide range of teaching strategies to meet the diverse needs of all of their students. We do not believe the low rates of student progress often associated with poor rural, or urban areas are either inevitable or unchangeable. Effective teaching also means an ability to help children accelerate their learning by differentiating their instruction to meet the unique needs of their students. Effective teachers are the ones who can make this happen.

6. How much control do principals and teachers have over their schools and classrooms once Generation ReadySM comes into a school?

Generation ReadySM works with teachers and school leaders as partners. Together we collect and review the data, to first identify the learning needs of the students and then collaboratively make decisions about the learning needs of the adults. We work with teachers in their classrooms to model for and guide teachers in shifting their practice. The relationships developed with principals and teachers are central to our success.

7. How does Generation ReadySM measure success?

Better student outcomes. Our solutions provide measurable improvement. Each year we help hundreds of districts and thousands of schools raise their students' achievement. True success only partly means that children are meeting state academic standards. It also means that students graduate, college and career ready.

8. What makes the technology you offer better or different from other companies?

We have a range of technology tools that we bring with us in our work. Generation Ready'sSM product suite is aligned and integrated to the work that we do in schools. It allows education consultants and schools to systematically manage, document and report on the professional learning and links this to student achievement. Our end-to-end technology platform is optimized for mobile devices and tablets and includes a secure social media component that provides for continuous feedback.