

Empowering educators, raising achievement

Professional Learning Services for sustainable
educator development



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If our students are to succeed in the years to come, they need to graduate from school ready for college and careers. With new standards raising expectations, many schools and districts have a single-minded focus on achievement and the key is effective teaching.

For every educator, graduation marks the beginning of a rewarding journey. Becoming a master teacher or school leader requires ongoing learning over the entire span of a career – a professional development process that can pay huge dividends for both teachers and students. For educators, student success is a powerful motivator for positive change in teaching practice. For students, a skilled teacher can pass on a passion for lifelong learning.

What does it take to become such an inspiring teacher? Professional learning has taken many forms over the years, from self-study programs to intensive workshops and in-service training. These efforts are well intentioned, but at best the results are mixed. Why?

Generation ReadySM believes professional development available to educators often falls short of its promise because it's not tailored to the needs of the school. In many cases, there is a narrow focus which leads teachers to emphasize implementing programs rather than improving their own practice. More importantly, many professional development approaches lack a solid grounding in evidence that traces progress to positive outcomes.

Grounded in over 20 years of experience in the field and four decades of research, Professional Learning Services from Generation Ready help to ensure that every student has an effective teacher. In each engagement, the Generation Ready team of education consultants addresses both content and instructional practice through job-embedded support. It's an end-to-end holistic approach, deeply rooted in data and best practices, that has led to improved learning outcomes for students at thousands of schools nationwide.

“ The consultants' impact on teaching and learning is positive, manifesting itself through well-planned, differentiated instruction.”

– P.S. 105 School Quality Review, New York City Department of Education



What makes our professional development so successful is its placement in the context of the school. Generation Ready's Six Essential Practices of Effective Schools are at the center of each engagement.

Generation Ready professional development enables you to move beyond meeting narrow achievement requirements by embedding teacher effectiveness within these deeper principles. We do more than build teaching skills in math, literacy, STEM or other content areas. We partner with your teachers and school leaders and empower them to become great educators who create a thriving learning environment for students.

Professional development as a team effort

With increases in accountability, today's teachers and school leaders are under a great deal of pressure. Often, there's a feeling of being scrutinized and judged at every turn.

Generation Ready's Six Essential Practices of Effective Schools



Professional Learning Services from Generation Ready make professional development a positive and collaborative experience. Our methods are hands-on, drawing on the expertise of education consultants who bring their own experience as teachers and educational leaders to every engagement.

We are your partners in achievement. Sharing your passion for student success, we work closely with teachers and school leaders to achieve the goal that matters most: a school that assures the success of every student.



“ Generation Ready’s depth of knowledge is evident in the teaching process, curriculum and student cognition through the empowering critique given to administration and teachers.”

– Sandra Hollaway, Principal, Wynne Intermediate School, AR

Professional Learning Services at a glance

Our services are designed to address the most urgent challenges facing today’s K-12 educators. We offer highly customized service engagements that target the professional development needs of teachers and administrators fully aligned with individual state learning standards and/or the Common Core:

- Leader effectiveness
- Teacher effectiveness
 - Literacy
 - Mathematics
 - STEM
 - English Language Learners
 - Special Education
 - Digital Learning

From theory to practice: a unique system of learning

Our Professional Learning Services are unique – an end-to-end approach that yields sustainable results. Rather than providing “quick fixes,” we engage deeply and systematically in a practical way that integrates learning theory into daily practice with a focus on practical application.

Our system is time-tested and proven to produce results. It is both evidence- and research-based with elements that complement and reinforce one another.

Job-embedded consulting

Our education consultants do much more than advise. They work with teachers and leaders in the classroom, as well as in workshops, group and individual meetings. They model best practices in class, so teachers can see effective teaching in action with their own students.

This job-embedded consulting is central to our professional learning methods. It’s an approach that allows us to gain deeper insight into teacher performance as well as greater understanding of both student and teacher learning needs. It also gives theory and practice real-world relevance.

In-class consulting sets the tone for productive teamwork. Our goal is to empower teachers and school leaders. By creating an inherently collaborative environment, our education consultants become true team members. This partner relationship matures during the course of the year. At the beginning, the education consultant’s role is highly supportive and hands-on. Over time, there is a gradual shift with the educator taking a stronger lead and the consultant supporting through observation and feedback. This process continues until the educator becomes comfortable with trying the strategy independently.

Measurement and assessment

Every Generation Ready engagement is developed from specific data, both at the beginning to understand existing challenges, capabilities and goals, and throughout to monitor and gauge progress. This data-based focus is directly responsible for the effectiveness of our Professional Learning Services. It ensures that every recommendation and action is driven by actual need.



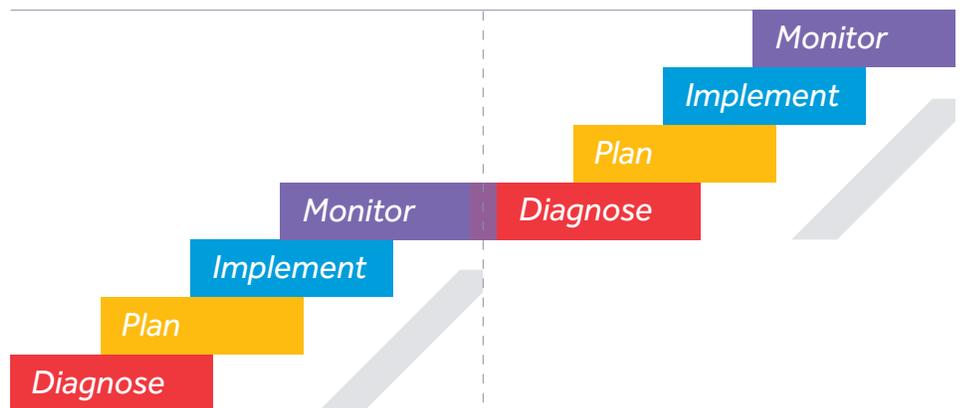
Changes in teacher practice are tracked continuously and reported on daily. This allows you to dynamically adjust the course of professional development and invest efforts where they're needed most.

Embedded best practices, content and technology

Our education consultants are supported by ReadyPathSM; Generation Ready's technology platform. ReadyPath actively links professional development to established best practices and instructional content. This intelligent digital framework supports and complements the expertise and experience of our education consultants.

Our Professional Learning Services engagements are supported by rich resources from our online Learn Library, developed by our own education consultants and based on their personal knowledge of what works in the classroom. The more than 300 modules in the Learn Library contain clear achievement rubrics, lesson plans and exemplars of student work including video of effective teaching practices in action.

Generation Ready's Continuous Cycle of Improvement



Adaptable by design to speed your progress

Generation Ready understands that results depend on being responsive to changing circumstances. As anyone involved in teaching knows, learning never follows a fixed progression. This fact is as true of professional development as it is of student learning. This is why our engagements are adaptable from the outset. Our education consultants implement a process that enables a continuous cycle of learning, constantly adjusted based on observation and outcome data.

Based on initial information gathering and assessment, our education consultants partner with you to formulate professional development plans. Depending on the engagement, these may be districtwide, within a school or individual plans for principals or teachers.

As the plan is implemented, the education consultant and principal observe and monitor progress and use this information to understand where changes need to be made. The professional development plans are then adjusted and the cycle begins again. This systematic, data-driven method self-corrects as the engagement unfolds. This way, you can stay on track and move toward your development goals more quickly.

“Seeing a child become a lifelong learner, that’s what matters.”



Learning services aligned with your most pressing education issues

Generation Ready devotes extensive resources to staying at the forefront of today’s education challenges, including deep familiarity with state and local standards. This helps us formulate services that target the instructional areas where professional development is needed most. It also enables us to fine-tune our offerings according to emerging needs.

In addition to expertise in professional development, Generation Ready education consultants have the specific subject matter knowledge required to meet your goals. This broad knowledge base combined with subject mastery helps us match the right consultants to each Professional Learning Services engagement.

Leader effectiveness

School and district leaders set the tone of the educational environment. Without the support of a competent leader, improving student achievement is extraordinarily difficult – if not impossible. Generation Ready incorporates our Six Essential Practices of Effective Schools into leadership professional development. We partner to foster a culture of learning and help principals become better team leaders who can strike the right balance of encouragement and authority.

Teacher effectiveness

At Generation Ready, we’re focused on empowering teachers in the ways they need most, through targeted, professional development that builds expertise around what constitutes powerful instruction. Our Professional Learning Services for teachers cover multiple content areas including, but not limited to, literacy, mathematics, STEM, diverse learners and technology.

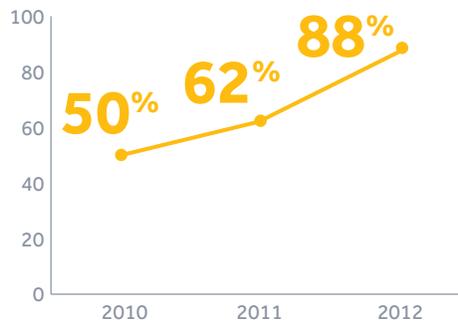
Flexibility to match your requirements

Generation Ready Professional Learning Services engagements are flexible, configured according to your specific goals and needs. We’ll work with you to find the right solution, which can include:

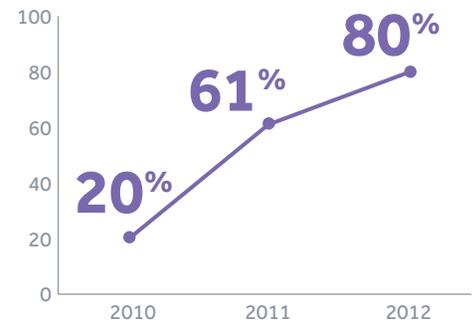
- On-site consulting, ranging from 15 to over 100 days
- Job-embedded learning
- Intensive, targeted improvement through three-day Institutes
- Online consulting
- Study groups and workshops
- Digital self-directed professional development
- Planning sessions
- Curriculum and task development support
- Guided visitations within and among schools
- Access to digital tools and content during the engagement
- Technology products for ongoing learning and talent management

Wynne, Arkansas students results with IEPs, Math-percentage proficient and above

Results for grade 3



Results for grade 4



Wynne Intermediate School, Grade-to-grade comparison

Literacy

In a very real sense, literacy is the starting point for student achievement. When students are able to fully comprehend the complex texts they encounter across the curriculum, they are on the way to becoming lifelong learners. Our literacy engagements enable teachers to raise student achievement in literacy while simultaneously addressing diverse cultural, linguistic, social and emotional needs. Our education consultant will support you in developing:

- Effective teaching in writing and reading aligned to state learning standards and/or the Common Core
- Aligning curriculum, instruction and assessment with state learning standards and/or the Common Core
- Systematic progress monitoring of student reading and writing over time
- Developing the reading-writing connection
- Strengthening middle school literacy teaching and learning
- Changing practice in literacy using instructional rounds to inform practice
- Making literacy standards accessible to students with disabilities

Mathematics

There is a nationwide shift in mathematics from teaching breadth of content towards ensuring that students have greater depth of understanding. Students are expected to meet and exceed more rigorous standards at the appropriate grade level by the end of each year. Generation Ready mathematics engagements help educators to build their own content knowledge and pedagogy around mathematics instruction to meet this challenge.

Our education consultant will support schools with:

- Effective mathematics instruction aligned to individual state learning standards and/or the Common Core
- Quality mathematics instruction: Using the eight mathematical practices and the six instructional shifts aligned to individual state learning standards and/or the Common Core
- Building blocks of learning: Creating units of study and performance tasks for use within the mathematics block/period
- Paving the road to systemically gathering, analyzing and monitoring student mathematics progress over time

- Unpacking the critical focus areas for individual state learning standards and/or the Common Core style: Number sense, operations, algebra, fractions, measurement, data and geometry
- Differentiated instruction: Creating pathways for diverse learners in mathematics
- Walkthroughs or rounds: Changing practice in mathematics instruction
- Building and delivering rigor into daily lessons in mathematics

STEM

In a global economy that is increasingly reliant on scientific and technical knowledge, STEM has become a critically important factor in students' future success. Generation Ready STEM engagements place this cross-discipline subject area in context so that teachers are better equipped to get students excited and engaged.

- Teaching practices for delivering effective STEM education
- Teams of teachers making cross-curricular connections using STEM projects
- Planning and delivering instruction using state learning standards with STEM projects

About Generation Ready

We are the nation's leading partner for educators with roots that go back 20 years, working with superintendents, principals and teachers to elevate student achievement through professional learning services and targeted school and district solutions.

Generation Ready offers a unique system of job-embedded consultancy, best practices and embedded technology that has helped build teacher skills and capacity at thousands of schools. It's professional development with a difference – evidence-based and proven to deliver results.

Diverse learners

Meeting the educational needs of diverse learners, be they students who are not native English speakers or those with disabilities, takes special teaching skills. We offer specialized teaching strategies to address a broad range of teacher skills related to these areas.

- Creating pathways for diverse learners in mathematics
- Building supervisors' and teachers' understanding of math content and instruction
- What makes co-teaching work: Building and maintaining effective teams
- Creating successful inclusion classrooms
- Making literacy standards accessible to students with disabilities
- Making math standards accessible to students with disabilities
- Supporting instruction across the curriculum for English language learners

Digital learning

In just a few years, technology has rapidly transformed the face of education. It's something that every teacher must come to terms with, whether it's using in-class technologies like interactive whiteboards, tablets and online apps, or better preparing students for the digitally focused world they will face. We offer a rich and varied selection of learning engagements that address every aspect of technology as applied to K-12 education.

- Implementing your core curriculum: Technology-based units of study and performance tasks in your core content areas
- Implementing your core curriculum: The power of digital portfolio practice
- Implementing your core curriculum: Problem-based learning and student-led demonstrations
- Using Google Apps, Moodle, or Edmodo to evolve whole-school communication, collaboration and school-home learning extensions
- Blended learning across your learning community

Learn more about the Generation Ready difference

At Generation Ready, your needs for professional learning are what drive our solutions. That's why we always start with a dialogue, so we can understand how best to structure our services in the way that will enable you to reach your goals for teacher and leader development.

Let's begin the conversation and let us show you how a Generation Ready partnership can move you toward the outcome that matters most: ensuring student success by building great teachers and administrators. Contact your Generation Ready representative today.

Give us a call at (866) 792-5879

or visit us at:

generationready.com

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