

Creating an environment where students thrive

Sustainable achievement gains through
School and District Solutions





Today more than ever, students need an effective learning environment if they are to develop the thinking skills needed to be ready for a career or college. At the same time, there are raised expectations for students.

Factors like these create significant challenges at the school and district level when it comes to ensuring student success. The critical decision for you is deciding what you need to support the excellent classroom practice and high quality teaching your students deserve.

The right choice is the one that's going to help build a culture of learning focused on meeting immediate school and district goals, as well as sustain your performance systemwide over the long term. True progress requires positive systemic change, not short-term "quick fixes." That's how Generation ReadySM School and District Solutions approach

the challenges you face every day. Whether it's managing your teachers' professional learning or giving an underperforming school a fresh start, our services help to position you for continued success.

Customized solutions targeting the core of student success

Generation Ready School and District Solutions are built around the expertise of highly qualified education consultants who know what needs to be in place to improve the quality of teaching. This is at the root of Generation Ready's Six Essential Practices of Effective Schools.

Generation Ready's Six Essential Practices of Effective Schools





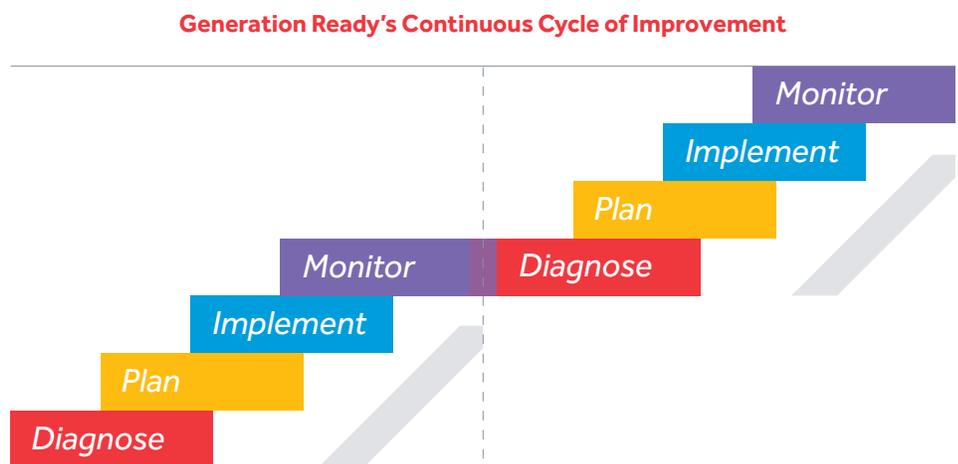
“A notable element of Generation Ready professional development is its broad range – from the ‘forest’ of systemic goals to the ‘trees’ of classroom-specific instructional strategies.”

– Annie Ward, Deputy Superintendent, K-12, Westchester, NY

These principles embody what Generation Ready is all about: a holistic approach to student achievement that addresses the entire learning environment through a unique system of collaborative job-embedded support. The Six Essential Practices are infused into our effectiveness rubrics and become a living part of every engagement.

Generation Ready consultants are teachers and leaders who have a deep understanding of your challenges, grounded in 20 years of practical experience. This insight garnered in the field, along with a thorough assessment of your district goals, performance and existing capabilities, helps us shape every engagement to your specific needs.

Our education consultants become part of your team – advising, monitoring and getting directly involved in the school and classroom. It’s a collaborative, dynamic cycle of progress driven by evidence – proof of results based on observation and feedback. We help you identify goals, design and implement your plan, track the results, assess the impact and refine



the plan on an ongoing basis. That keeps you on course, correcting as needed to maximize results. Along the way, you get the tools needed to meet your requirements for accountability.

Better practice at every level, from the classroom to the whole district

Generation Ready’s Continuous Cycle of Improvement works because our School and District Solutions are part of a continuum, dovetailing with our Professional Learning Services. The result is a seamless whole that strengthens individual teachers and leaders as well as schools and districts.

Personal professional development is integral to our school- and district-level solutions. We don’t just address the school’s issues: we empower the people, too. At Generation Ready, we believe that every part of the education environment – leaders, educators, schools and districts – plays a role in fostering achievement. Improved student performance is the direct outcome of more effective teaching and leadership, which depends on both the individual teacher and the school itself.

“With great teachers
come great schools.”

Tackling a wide range of system-wide issues

The Generation Ready portfolio of School and District Solutions is informed by our deep expertise and understanding of educational issues. Our solutions target key school and district challenges such as:

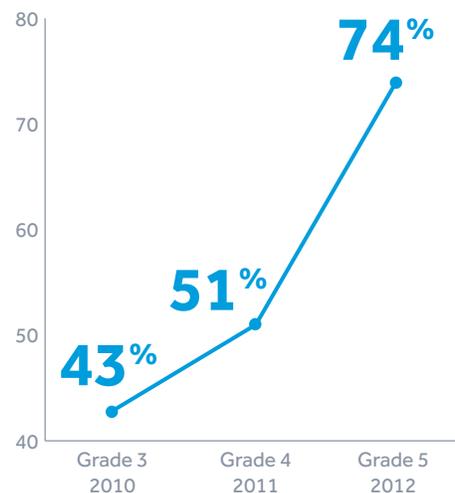
- School Improvement to address performance at all levels
- Implementation of state learning standards and/or the Common Core
- Response to Intervention to give extra assistance to students who need it
- Literacy improvement to prepare students for continued learning
- Integration of technology into your curriculum and classroom

School Improvement: establishing a foundation

Schools struggling to meet accountability standards are now faced with implementing more rigorous achievement standards and new teacher and principal effectiveness requirements. The difficulty of the challenge often causes frustration and concern on the part of teachers, administrators, parents, and students.

Tate County, Mississippi results in language arts and math

Percent increase in language arts



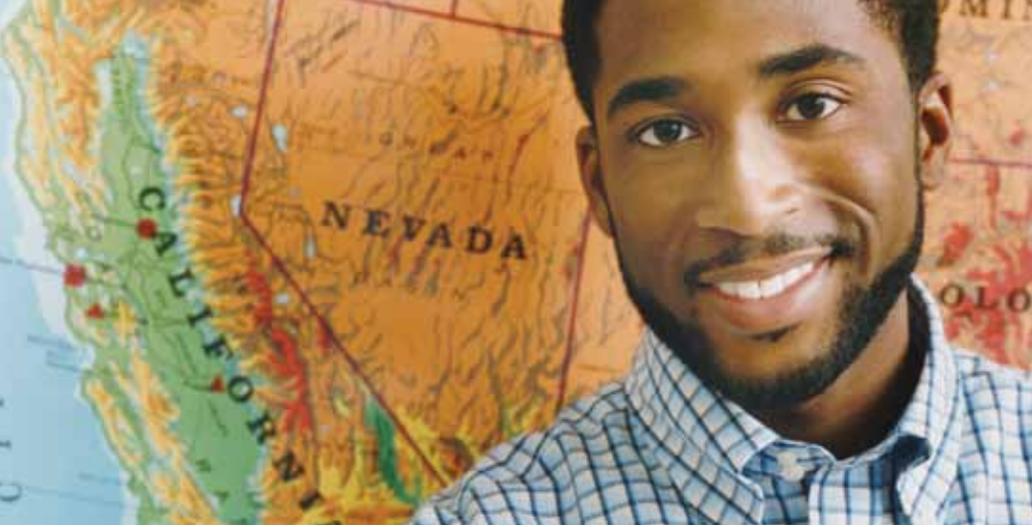
Percent increase in math



Coldwater Attendance Center
Grades 3-8 Percentage Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)
Cohort comparison
The Tate School is a SIG School.

Our School Improvement offering provides districts and schools with a structured process to set schools on a path for continued success. Using Generation Ready’s proven development approach, our education consultants help you address key systemic issues while building instructional leadership and teacher capacity.

Each school is unique and the skill of the education consultant in pinpointing starting points for individuals, groups, and whole school is invaluable. The process is about capacity building and shifting the culture of the school from low expectations to a belief that students can and will achieve.



We know that it's your school leaders' and teachers' motivation, confidence and ability to drive change that will ultimately produce meaningful results and we work hard to strengthen all of these. As positive changes are made in the school environment, classroom instruction becomes the focus of the ongoing work. It's a positive, productive experience. At many of the schools we've helped, the working relationship has been so strong that consultants are asked to stay on and enhance the district's ability to handle new challenges and initiatives.

Common Core and beyond: meeting state requirements

Most states are in the midst of implementing the Common Core State Standards for math and literacy, making it an urgent matter for school and district leaders across the country. The changes that come with Common Core represent a very real and immediate challenge that could transform everything from curriculum to teacher standards and accountability processes. The standards may be the same, but every state must follow a unique course because all are starting from a different place.

To make matters more complicated, the education system in the United States is a patchwork of overlapping standards, requirements and funding initiatives. Common Core may be today's challenge but others will undoubtedly arise.

For the past two decades, Generation Ready has been deeply involved in helping districts and schools adapt to ever-changing standards. Working with school districts nationwide – from New York's urban school system to rural Mississippi – we understand the implications and expectations of such efforts and what it takes to fulfill the mission. We devote considerable resources to staying abreast of the latest development and tracking regulatory changes in every state. This translates into insight you need, regardless of your local requirements.

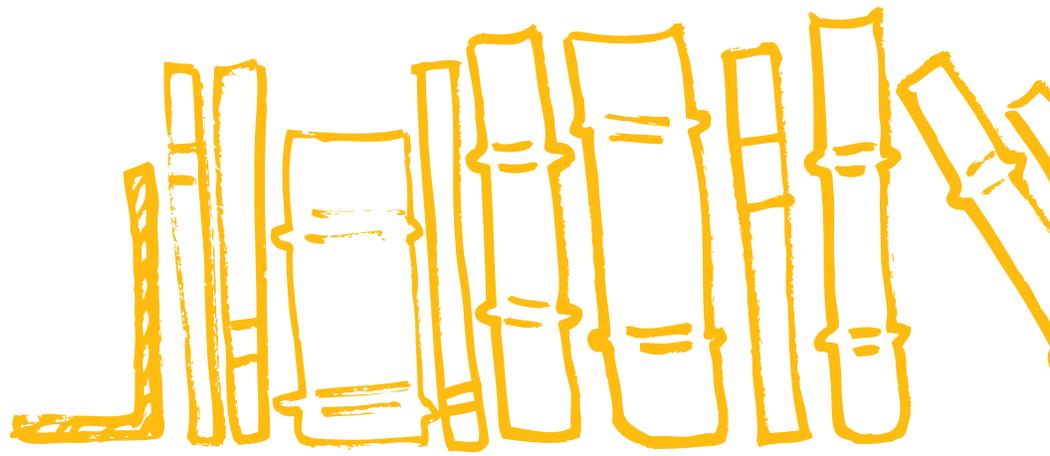
Generation Ready will show you how Common Core and state initiatives will impact your schools and your community. With the support of our education consultants, you can make the changes needed to align with new standards at every level, from organizational structures and leader practice to teacher

professional development. The plan we build together after thorough analysis of your current capabilities will help you transition quickly and effectively – and put structures in place to keep you in compliance.

Response to Intervention: learning assistance for those who need it most

In any school district, some students require more assistance than others. Identifying and supporting those students in a systematic way is what Response to Intervention legislation is about. The mandate is to give a critical learning boost to those who need it, reducing referrals to special education programs.

Generation Ready helps you establish a comprehensive, multi-tiered system of support for these students, with universal screening, targeted interventions for each intervention tier, progress monitoring and proactive decision making grounded on data. It's a team-based process, at the district and school level, that helps prevent students from falling further behind or suffering the consequences of a "wait to fail" approach before identifying those with learning issues.



Our methodology leverages job-embedded support and rigorous assessment to help you design and facilitate interventions based on your school's own data. This gives you the means to address specific behavioral and academic concerns within each tier of support more effectively. We can enhance your ability to go beyond compliance with Response to Intervention legislation to give every student an opportunity to learn.

Middle School Literacy Initiative: preparing students to learn

One of the greatest challenges facing middle schools is the need to ensure students are able to read and comprehend the increasingly complex texts they encounter across discipline areas. Literacy is the cornerstone of all student achievement. Without it, students are less likely to understand the material being taught, regardless of subject.

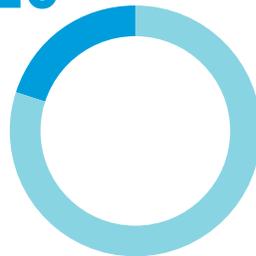
Our Middle School Literacy Initiative has a single, but very important mission: to have all students in your district entering high school reading at grade level. We help you focus literacy improvement efforts where they'll do the most good.

Middle School in Bronx, NY

Percentage of 6th grade students at risk. Total population: 196 students

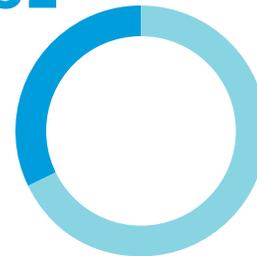
September 2012
At or above grade level

20%



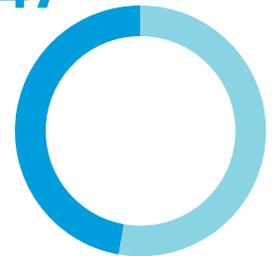
January 2013
At or above grade level

32%



June 2013
At or above grade level

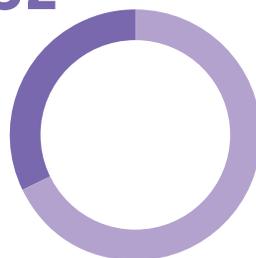
47%



Percentage of 7th grade students at risk. Total population: 305 students

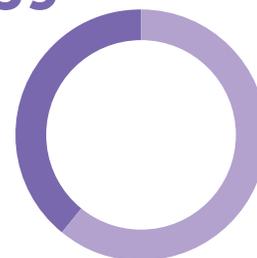
September 2012
At or above grade level

32%



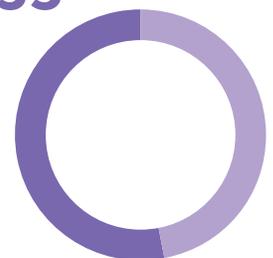
January 2013
At or above grade level

39%



June 2013
At or above grade level

53%



The results on this page are for students from September 2012-June 2013. Student progress is tracked through the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP), a nationally normed Cloze comprehension assessment.



We start by gathering and analyzing schoolwide and districtwide achievement data. We use that analysis to develop a strategic action plan. We then transition to working at the school level to carry it out, using established frameworks for progress monitoring and ongoing assessment.

What makes the Middle School Literacy Initiative so effective is that it spans discipline areas. Direct, explicit comprehension instruction in English Language Arts (ELA) is a major part of the Initiative, but instruction also addresses other subjects including science and social studies. This broad-based, consistent approach ensures that all students are prepared to succeed.

Digital Technologies Integration: preparing students for a connected world

Technology has transformed the face of education. Schools are moving to online and blended learning models, forcing teachers to rethink how learning is accomplished. While some might see the rise of technology as a challenge, Generation Ready sees an opportunity to prepare a whole generation of students to take full advantage of these exciting new tools.

This is not just about the technology itself. Digital literacy is critical both to meet academic requirements and to succeed after graduation. Students need the skills to purposefully use technology to produce high-quality work that can meet Common Core and/or other state learning standards.

Technology integration starts with knowing how to introduce technologies like interactive whiteboards, apps, constructivist theory-based tools, instructional web sites, cloud computing and mobile devices into the curriculum and the classroom. New software, hardware and teaching methods crop up almost daily and it's hard to know where to begin the transformation.

Generation Ready education consultants are well versed in the use of technology to promote learning both in the classroom and at home. We involve teachers, students and even their parents so everyone understands how tools like digital portfolios, Web 2.0 collaboration, apps, access to content through online resources like Google/Moodle and blended learning can expand the learning environment beyond traditional boundaries.

“Generation Ready helped me to implement many needed fundamentals that include maximizing my time towards instructional leadership, collaborating with all faculty members to a common mission, and analyzing data to improve pedagogy.”

– Paul Griep, Principal, Alternative Learning Center, AR

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.

An evolving capacity to meet district and school challenges

Education never stands still and neither does Generation Ready. We work tirelessly to stay ahead of the challenges that superintendents and school leaders face so that, when the time comes for action, we're ready to help. Ours is not a fixed portfolio. Our customized offerings encapsulate our comprehensive expertise, brought together in the way that fits your situation best.

That's the strength of our approach. At Generation Ready, your unique needs drive every one of our solutions. That's why we always start with a dialogue, so we can understand how best to structure our services. Combined with our deep insight into what's required to thrive in

a constantly shifting education landscape, this collaborative approach gives us the ability to adapt to virtually any district need.

Find out more about the Generation Ready difference

Contact your Generation Ready representative today to learn more about how we can help your school and district leaders deal with today's challenges and opportunities. Together, we'll find the right answer – the one that will help your students succeed.

Give us a call at (866) 792-5879
or visit us at:
generationready.com

“... the high degree of objectivity embedded in the data-driven approach has served the school well in improving student achievement.”

– P.S./I.S. 279X School Quality Review, NY Department of Education