“Gen Z & Generation Alpha:
What to Know About the Students We Educate”
Participant Handout

Presented by Mr. Jeff King, Portage Township Schools
jeffrey.king@portage.k12.in.us

Conversation #1 ~ “Compare and Contrast”

Meet & Mingle Opportunity ~ Cross-Generational Conversation

Gen Z	Both	Generation Alpha

Most Valuable Lesson #1 ~ People don’t _____ how much we _____ until they _____ how much we _____.

Most Valuable Lesson #2 ~

- The attention span of a goldfish is _____.
- The attention span of human beings now is _____.

Conversation #2 ~ "Say Hello to Gen Z"

- Mantra ~ I'm _____ and _____.

- Gen Z Profile
  - P _____
  - A _____
  - R _____
  - T _____
  - N _____
  - E _____
  - R _____

- Cross-Generational Conversation
  - Based on your experience and the Gen Z profile, what teaching and learning practices have you found to engage Gen Z students the most?

Conversation #3 ~ "And Now…Here's Generation Alpha"

- Numbering 2 _____ and counting
- 2.5 _____ born each week
- 1st generation that fully encapsulates _____
- Best-_____
- _____% will work in jobs that currently do _____ exist
- Most _____ (nationalities & _____)
- W_____
- More likely to spend some or all of their childhood _____ both of their of _____ parents

- Generation Alpha Profile
  - E _____
  - P _____
  - I _____
  - C _____ & _____
- My White Hot Why ~
  - "Enable our kids to better understand the _____ around them and discover and develop the _____ within them so they can _____ to any worthy cause _____ than themselves at any _____ and in any _____ or _____."
- Like-Generation Conversation
  - Based on your experience and the Generation Alpha profile, what teaching and learning practices have you found to engage Generation Alpha students the most?

Conversation #4 ~ "Alpha - Z" Right Stuff

- **Direct Instruction**
  - Short _____ of instruction
    - _____, easily _____, and entertaining
  - Simple _____ & Jingles
  - Visual Content ~ _____
  - Interactive Content
  - Physical _____, Exercise, & _____ Experiences
  - Connect to _____ Issues
    - Age Old Question ~ Why do we have to learn this?

- **Guided Practice**
  - _____ ~ 62% of Generation Alpha parents say their kid(s) are more social than they were at that age
  - Entertaining
    - _____ your checks for _____
  - _____
  - Think Outside of _____ Box
    - 71% of Generation Alpha parents say their kid(s) are well ahead of where they were at their age.
    - Let them be _____

- **Independent Practice**
  - _____ Work
  - Quick (Mini Assessments) ~ _____ IS _____!
  - Active (and Entertaining) Learning Experiences
  - Let them be Creative
    - Current Brands encourage _____, _____ and inspo!
  - Build Stamina
    - _____ & _____
      - (53% Gen Z vs. 42% Generation Alpha like reading)
    - _____ Paper & Pencil activities
      - Again, CREATIVE!!
    - _____ narrative

- Leverage their Strengths ~ Lean into what they value!
    - Connectedness
    - Curiosity & Creativity
    - Capacity for Empathy
    - Desire for Change

- If we DON’T Leverage their Strengths
  - Be part of the _____
  - Embrace a _____ mindset
  - Experience _____
  - Have a _____ mindset
  - See the _____ cloud
  - Be _____ and _____

- If we DO Leverage their Strengths
  - Be part of the _____
  - Embrace a _____ mindset
  - Enjoy a _____ mindset
  - Have _____
  - See the _____ lining
  - Be _____ and _____

Conversation #5 ~ "I Leave You With This…"

Although we cannot fully prepare Gen Z and Generation Alpha students for what is to come, we can walk alongside them and share our life experiences, knowledge, and wisdom with them.

And…

Honor their paths and resist the impulse to force them on the well-traveled road.

Why? Because the path they will follow is one none of us have yet traveled.