

Transitioning From MS Teams Meeting to Engageli

After working with hundreds of instructors from across the country and worldwide, we have identified some of the most common instructional formats that are used and the typical challenges that instructors face when teaching online. Instructors have shared their personal teaching practices and experiences while teaching with Teams. We have highlighted how instructors can increase engagement and interaction by running the same sessions in Engageli.

Small-Group Discussions

Instructor Experience

I use small group discussions in my class. I put learners in groups to discuss a topic and then share key points of the small group discussion with the whole class. I use Teams breakout rooms to facilitate the small group discussions by letting Teams randomly place learners into the breakout rooms.

The Challenge

Learners complain that they feel isolated in the breakout rooms, and I have difficulty monitoring all of the breakout rooms. If I forget to give an instruction or need to clarify a question, it is challenging to give an update to the entire class and know that everyone has received the information.

I can only create and manage Teams breakout rooms when I am on my system with the desktop version. If I have to start my Teams session using the web version of Teams, I can not create or manage breakout rooms.

The Engageli Solution

By default, all learners in an Engageli classroom are seated at a virtual table. **Tables** can be used to facilitate small group discussions while also allowing the instructor and learners to easily communicate with the whole class.

In Engageli, you can:



- Select the number of learners for each table through the Engageli Portal. You can preassign learners to a specific table or have learners choose their own table.
- Provide a smooth transition from small group discussions to a larger class discussion as learners do not need to “leave” the classroom for small group time.
- Rest easy knowing that you and your students are always at a table within the larger classroom and that students can ask for guidance when needed.

To find out more information about using tables, please visit “[Instructor Table Settings](#)” and “[Using Tables for Active Learning](#).”

Group Projects

Instructor Experience

We work on group projects in class. Learners are assigned a group and maintain the same group throughout the semester. I pre-assign learners to breakout rooms, and as long as I create recurring sessions for the semester, they are maintained.

During class, learners will go to their Teams breakout rooms to work on the project. I periodically visit the breakout rooms to check on progress, answer questions, and help problem-solve.

The Challenge

It is difficult to know when a particular group needs immediate help because they don’t always know how to get from the breakout room to the main room. If they do go back to the main room, I might be helping learners in another breakout room.

The Engageli Solution

It is easy to support the learners in your Engageli classroom even when you have joined a particular table.

In Engageli, you can:

- Pre-assign table seating based on project group members. Each class session, learners will automatically be seated at their assigned tables.
- Share collaborative Google documents with each table so that groups can work together within the Engageli classroom.



- Share files for the group assignment through the chat feature.
- Observe or join individual tables while still being able to monitor the other tables since they are all part of the larger classroom.
- Assist learners at other tables; learners can get your attention by simply raising their hands.

To find out more information about using tables, please visit "[Instructor Table Settings](#)," "[Using Tables for Active Learning](#)," and "[Set Up Your Class Roster and Assigned Seating](#)."

Polls

Instructor Experience

I like to use polls in class to check learner comprehension and encourage engagement during our synchronous lectures. Ideally, I like to offer multiple polls with between one and three questions. Some of the poll questions lead to lively class discussions.

The Challenge

Imagery is very important in my course, and I like to use images in my Polls. Teams Meeting Polls formats are limited to questions and multiple-choice or text answers. I cannot incorporate images in my Teams Meeting Poll, so I use a third-party tool for polls and quizzes.

The Engageli Solution

Engageli has integrated polls and quizzes into its platform without the need for a third-party tool.

In Engageli, you can:

- Create polls and quizzes by copying and pasting Engageli Tags into your presentation. Share your screen with the slide or document containing your poll/quiz questions and activate it using the "Activate Tag" button.
- Set a timer for your poll/quiz; lock the poll/quiz and share the results with the class live after all learners have responded.
- View the response data after class and use it to grade learners or to assess comprehension of a particular topic.



To learn more about using Engageli's polls and quizzes, please visit "[Create A Poll or Quiz](#)" and "[Using Your Created Polls.](#)"

To learn how to use the timer, please visit "[Setting a Timer.](#)"

Reactions

Instructor Experience

One of the ways that I check learner engagement in my class is through the use of emojis or reactions.

The Challenge

When learners use Meeting Reactions in Teams, Meeting Reactions are only visible for a few seconds. This limitation makes it difficult to track learner engagement in large courses. There are a limited number of Meeting Reactions from which learners may select. This makes it difficult to truly gauge pacing, understanding, or comfort level – Meeting Reactions only have positive reactions, Like, Love, Applause, Laugh, and Surprise. In addition, Meeting Reactions are not available when using the web version of Teams.

The Engageli Solution

There are multiple ways to determine engagement and interact with your learners when using Engageli.

In Engageli, you can:

- Ask learners how they feel about the content by using the thumbs up/thumbs down feature.
- See aggregate class engagement with the engagement thermometers on the management bar when teaching from the instructor application. As learners chat, raise hands, ask or answer questions in the chat, or answer polls, the engagement thermometers move accordingly.
- Analyze learner class participation data through the portal. This data is available on an individual learner level and a class level immediately after the class ends.

For more information about tracking class and individual learner engagement, please visit "[Using In-Class Engagement Metrics.](#)"



Class-Wide Discussions

Instructor Experience

We frequently have lively debates in my class. Learners tend to talk over one another or all at once, trying to make their point. In Teams, I frequently ask people to use mute and take turns talking by using the Raise hand feature in Show reactions.

The Challenge

I often do not notice when a learner has raised their hand and wanted to make a contribution, especially when teaching a large class.

The Engageli Solution

Engageli's raised hand functionality enables orderly classroom debate and conversation.

In Engageli, you can:

- Easily see who would like to speak by having learners raise their hands and come to the podium. Learners are automatically put in a queue on the podium based on when each hand was raised.
- Use Engagement Markers to evaluate learner engagement and determine which tables might be struggling and need intervention when you are teaching from the instructor application.

To find out more information about how to use Engageli's class features, please visit "[Ask a Question in Class](#)" and "[Using In-Class Engagement Metrics](#)."