Extending the Table

Inviting Critical Perspectives to the Conversation

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2023 OSEP LEADERSHIP AND PROJECT DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE



and Project Directors' Conference



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Objectives

By the end of this 'Talk' session, participants will be able to answer the questions:

- What are critical perspectives?
- Why do we need different voices?
- How do we engage others?

Additionally, participants will hear a case example of how critical perspectives were leveraged to develop expectations for early literacy instruction.



Decisions - Decisions

I have made decisions using online reviews for...

- 1. Travel/Accommodations
- 2. Food
- 3. Clothing
- 4. Entertainment
- I have never used online reviews



The Challenge

How can we be intentional about engaging new voices in our decision making?



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Critical Perspectives

Essential for Effective and Equitable Decisions

Disrupt the status quo, anticipate barriers, leverage strengths

A deep and thorough understanding of the community

Fit, feasibility and acceptability of the innovation

Knowledge of how practice and policy work together



Why other perspectives?

"A dose of complexity...gives us more humility about our knowledge and more doubts about our opinions, and it can make us curious enough to discover information we are lacking."

Adam Grant



Why?

Why do you think other perspectives are needed?





Research tells us...

Clarity

Teams have clearer definitions of desired outcomes, wants and needs. Clarification of common language in education provides equitable access to what happens in schools.

Fit

Initiatives are a better fit to local contexts making it more likely that they will be implemented well.

Empowerment

Successful co-creation of solutions to wicked problems empowers everyone and creates a sense of collective efficacy.



Research tells us...

Trust

Transparent decision making with a shared purpose and understanding improves relationships.

Co-Learning

Opportunities for learning from others generates new ideas and increases the use of best practices.

Collaboration

Working together allows us to anticipate unintended outcomes or barriers before they occur.



The WI story





Explicitly Plan for Authentic Engagement

identify	l partners import			T	
(Who)	Engagement	Barriers to Engagement	Engagement	collaboration (include how and by when)	Responsibility
					Engagement (include how

How?



- · Who will contribute to our objective?
- Who will be affected by it?
- Who can influence our objective, directly or indirectly?





 What is the needed level of engagement from each collaborator?



- What are potential barriers to their engagement?
- How can we mitigate those barriers?
- What are the rationales and/or facilitators of their engagement?



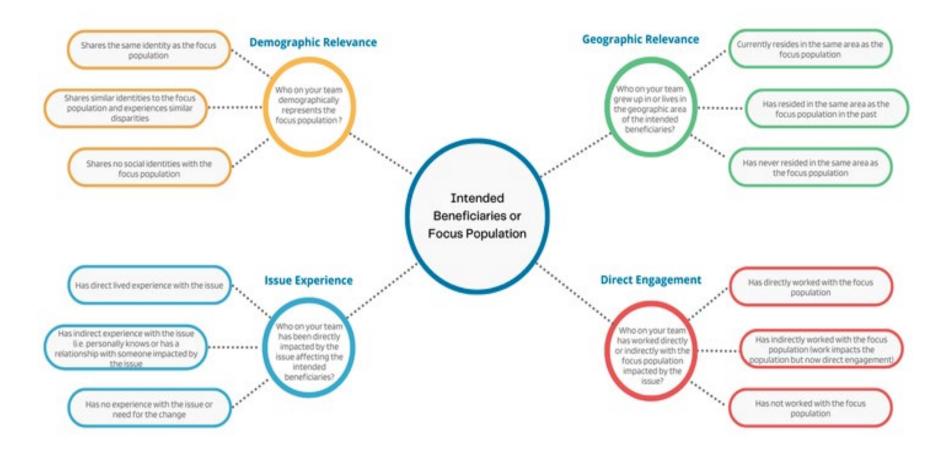
- What is our plan for engaging collaborators?
- · Who is responsible?





Identify

What Perspectives are Needed?





Map

Levels of Engagement

Co-Creation

Those with critical perspective take the lead in making decisions and taking action.

Collaborate

Partners with critical perspectives identify and develop assumptions for change and component strategies of the program/practice through two-way engagement with program leadership and an emphasis on co-learning. Partner share in decision making.

nvolve

Partners with critical perspectives are part of the process in identifying assumptions for change and component strategies of the program/practice needed. They identify various alternatives for strategies through two-way engagement with program leadership and decision-makers, but do not contribute to decision-making.

Consult

Partners with critical perspectives are asked to provide feedback on the assumptions for change and component strategies for improving outcomes. They have a limited role, whereby they are asked questions and provide a response

Inform

Inform Partners with critical perspectives are informed of the work, including core assumptions for change and component strategies, for improving outcomes. They are engaged in using pull communication (information is made available and onus is on recipient to find it or push communication (information is broadcasted to all).

International Association for Public Participation (2018). Spectrum of Public Participation. Retrieved from: https://www.iap2.org/page/pillars



EFFORT

NUMBERS

Analyze

entify	partners import		tive:		
entify			tive:		
	Map Level of				
Vho)	Engagement	Potential Barriers to Engagement	Facilitators of Engagement	Plan for collaboration (include how and by when)	Responsibility
			Engagement	Engagement	

 Barriers: What gets in the way of authentic engagement?

• Facilitators: What could support authentic engagement?



Make a Plan!

Plan for Engaging Critical Perspectives Template									
Identified need	for change:			3000					
Why is engagement from additional partners important to your initiative:									
Identify (Perspective)	Identify (Who)	Map Level of Engagement	Potential Barriers to Engagement	Facilitators of Engagement	Plan for collaboration (include how and by when)	Responsibility			

Your turn

Think about an upcoming opportunity you might have to engage others. What will you try from this discussion?

OR

If you had an opportunity to engage others over again, what might you do differently?





Resource Spotlight

- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) website
 - Brings together IDEA information and resources from the Department and its grantees.
 - https://sites.ed.gov/idea/
- IDEAS That Work
 - For information from research to practice initiatives funded by OSEP that address the provisions of IDEA and ESSA. This website includes resources, links, and other important information relevant to OSEP's research to practice efforts.
 - https://osepideasthatwork.org/



Resources from SISEP

- Read:
 - The SISEP Brief: <u>Engaging Critical Perspectives</u> by Sophia Farmer and Yolanda Perkins
- Watch:
 - Voices from the Field: <u>Implementation Teams</u>
- Listen:
 - Implementation Science for Educators Podcast: <u>Episodes 34</u> and <u>35</u> to hear an example from WI



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