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SEEK UNDERSTANDING

GOAL: Organizations garner the necessary knowledge and understanding to support customized quality instruction for students, communities, and schools.

Understand the School

The process to develop customized instruction should include needs assessments, research, and discussion to identify curricular gaps, and areas of interest. Organizations build an approach that is culturally-relevant to the student population and grounded in the school's overarching approach to arts education.

Understand the Community

Deepening organizational understanding of families and community members can enable organizations to create programs that accommodate family realities, and are welcoming and culturally-relevant to the communities the organization seeks to reach. To develop knowledge of the community, organizations communicate in a family's language of choice, with sensitivity to cultural norms and, when possible, culturally-relevant approaches.

Understand the Students

Using a process-oriented approach to determine what is desirable and relevant for each student body can help ground programs in an appropriate cultural context. Organizations should determine what students have already experienced and what knowledge they seek.

