GrantWISE

Community for Fiscal & Programmatic Excellence in Discretionary Grants



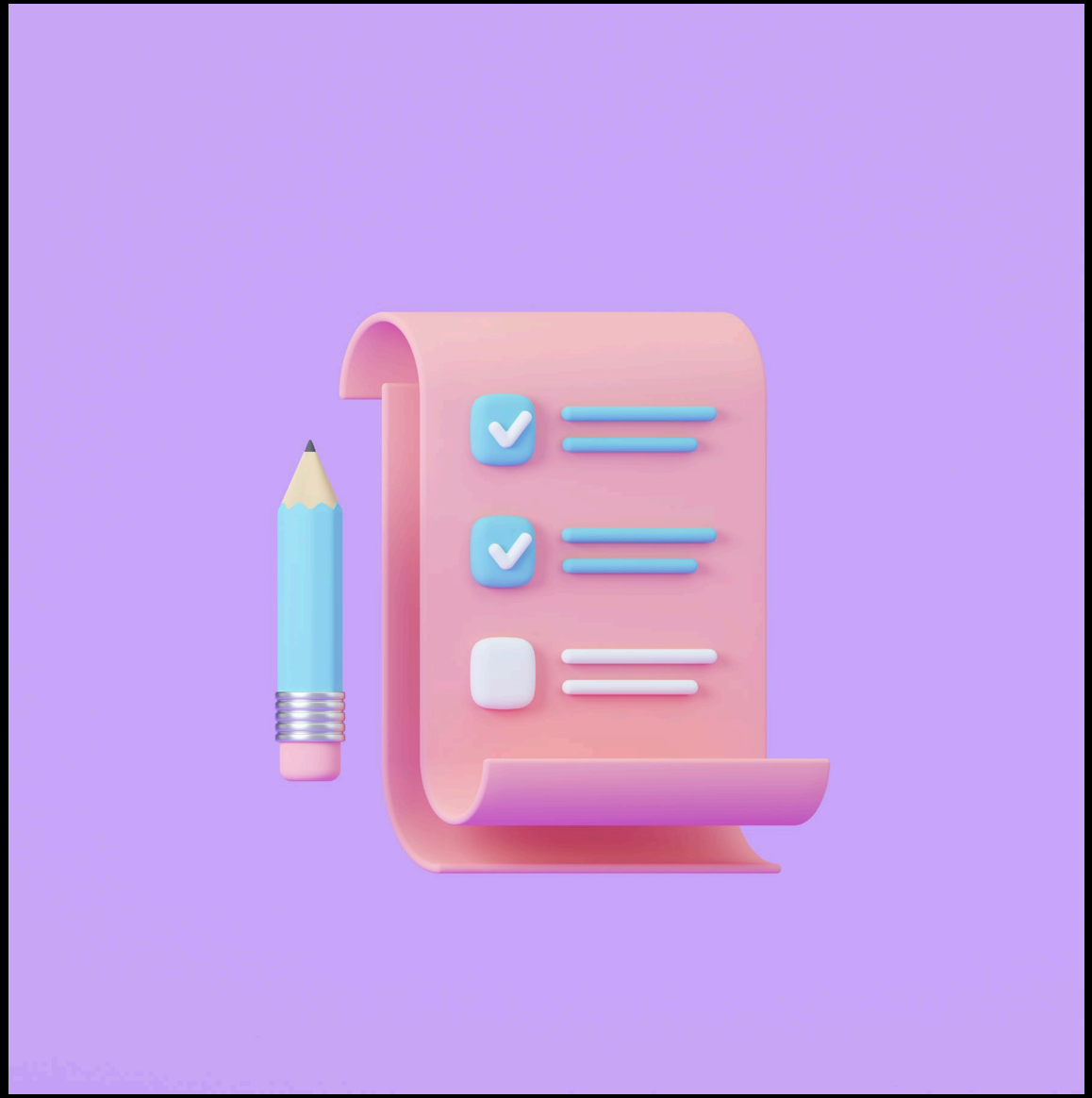
Purpose of GrantWISE

1. How to work with procurement
2. Helpful resources for budgeting
3. Assistance with APR-related budget explanations
4. **Other project management and process-oriented support, as needed**



Schedule

Second Wednesday of every other month from 3-4:00 ET.





Grant Challenges & Solutions

November 20, 2026

Agenda

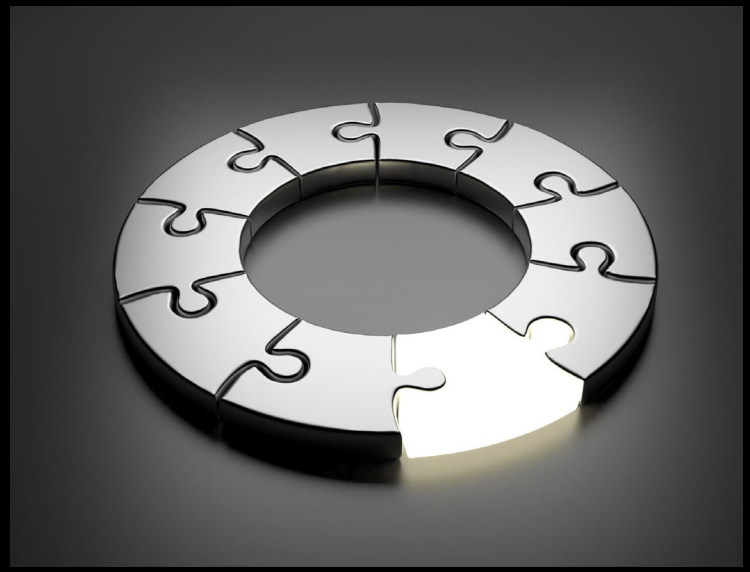
→Connection with Content

→Defining the Challenge

→Potential Solutions

→What else?







“A problem well stated is a problem half solved.”

Charles Kettering



Defining the Challenge

Connection with Content

Small group breakouts

Take 1 minute to think about which is a challenge for your grant. Then take two minutes to write a problem statement.

- Family Engagement
- Planning for Sustainability
- Collaboration

Write out the specifics of what is challenging.

Examples

Family Engagement – measuring its impact

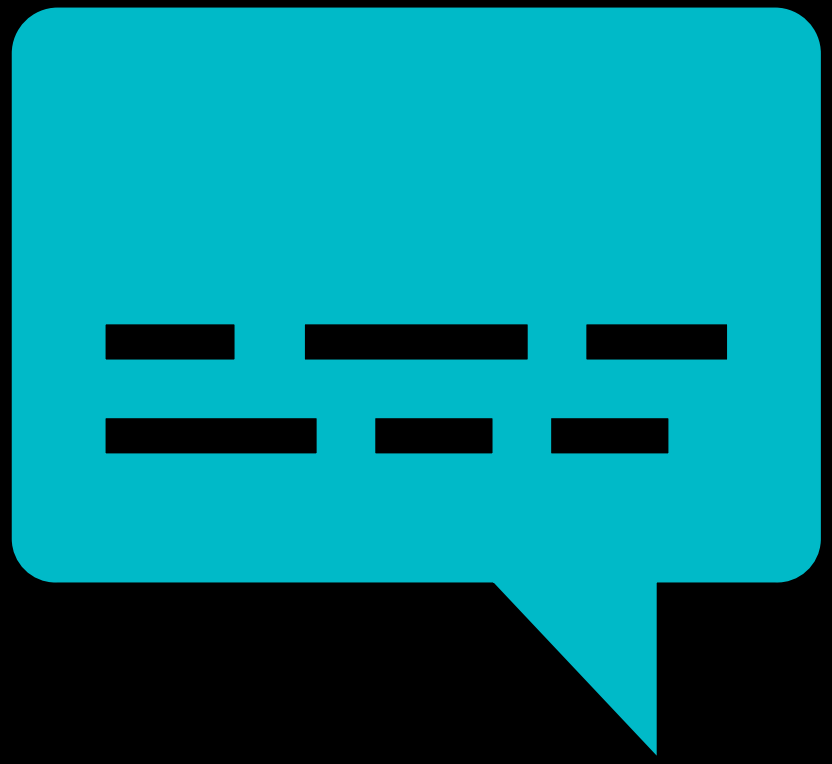
- It is difficult to measure the impact of our partnership with the PTI. Our SPDG supports inclusive math practices. The PTI helps schools hold Family Math Nights. We think these have been successful but have had difficulty measuring the impact the events have.

Sustainability – preparing LEAs to sustain their efforts

- We understand that sustainability should be part of the conversation with our LEA partners from the beginning of our partnership with them but are uncertain the form this should take.

Collaboration Example

After years of trying, we are still very siloed in our agency. What strategies could we use to enhance collaboration across State Department offices for a fully integrated educational system?



Each person shares their challenge statement.

The group brainstorms solutions. (5 min per person)

When we return to the large group, have 1 person prepared to share take-aways.

Ah-ha's and Further Questions





Strategies for Each Challenge Area

Family Engagement, Sustainability, Collaboration

“Clear is Kind.”

Brene Brown



Family Engagement: Co-Creation

- **Create your SPDG plan and application WITH your family partners.**
- **Create your logic model WITH the help of your family partners.**
- **Create your evaluation questions (from your logic model) WITH your family partners.**
- **Create your evaluation plan (from your logic model and evaluation questions) WITH the help of your family partners.**
- **Create your subgrant objectives WITH the help of your family partners.**
- **Create your APR WITH the help of your family partners.**

Discussion: Family Engagement

What element of co-creation would help you?

- → **Reviewing and potentially revising the scope of work?**
- → **Reviewing and potentially revising your contract?**
- → **Reviewing and potentially revising your evaluation plan?**

How will you know all partners understand each other?

- → **Clear is kind**!
- → What could you do?

In the end, what will success look like?

- → Do you have a way to demonstrate success?
- → How will you share formative and summative data with?

Sustainability begins at the beginning.

- Hexagon Tool
- Implementation Stages Planning Tool
- Program Sustainability Assessment Tool

Discussion: What does your project use? What is working? What isn't?

Collaboration is Built on Individual Relationships

Don’t discount the power of:

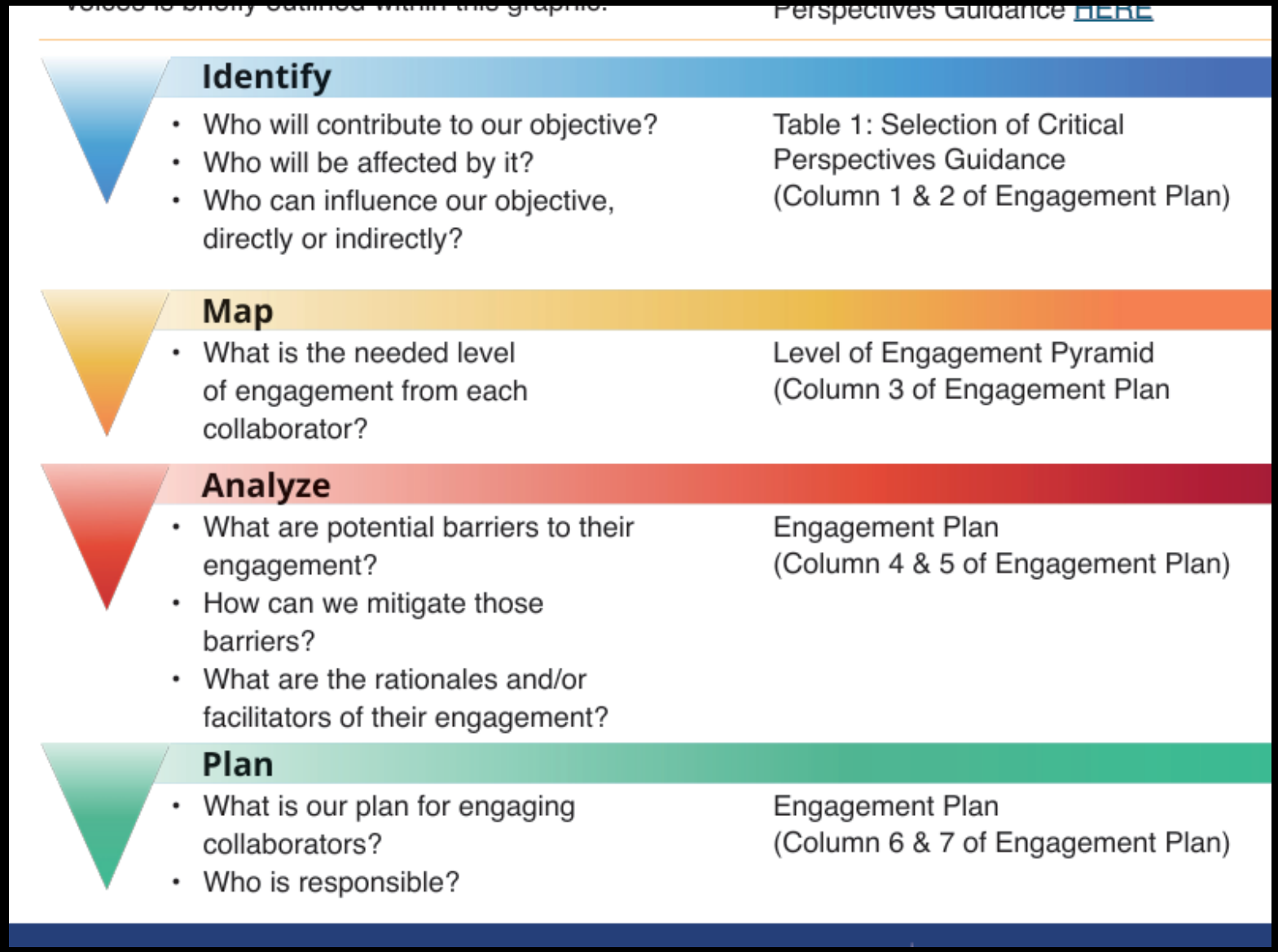
- Coffee
- Happy hour
- Meeting up at an outside event

How can you use your funds to help support and grow the collaboration?

Other Collaboration Strategies

[Engaging Critical Perspectives]

- Which of these stages have you successfully gone through in your collaborations?
- Which do you want to focus on with a current collaboration?



Discussion - Oklahoma example

Does measuring collaboration help it improve and grow?

- “Annually, the OSDE OKMTSS State Team demonstrates improved team knowledge of MTSS and how state programs support it by achieving an average score of 80% or better on the OSDE OKMTSS Knowledge Survey administered each spring.”

Collaboration in Action

"the OKMTSS Leadership team has begun a process to effectively team and support schools based on existing supports they receive and data-based decisions indicating more support is needed. This collaboration has brought the regional accreditation team together with the technical assistance team to leverage and support schools more effectively."

Thank you

Email Jennifer or John with ideas and questions for the group:

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