

Leading with Cultural Responsiveness

Key Considerations and Avoidances

✓ Do:

- **Actively listen** to understand the cultural nuances and perspectives of families and communities.
- **Build trust** by being transparent, reliable, and respectful in all interactions.
- **Engage families** as equal partners in decision-making processes that affect their children's education.
- **Provide resources and support** that are culturally relevant and accessible to all families.
- **Celebrate diversity** and create inclusive environments that value the unique contributions of all cultures.

✗ Don't:

- **Make assumptions** about families based on stereotypes or preconceived notions.
- **Use jargon or technical language** that families may not understand.
- **Dismiss or invalidate** families' concerns or perspectives.
- **Implement policies or practices** that disproportionately disadvantage certain cultural groups.
- **Fail to acknowledge** the historical and systemic barriers that have impacted families and communities.

By following these guidelines, district and school administrators can foster strong partnerships with families and communities, leading to improved outcomes for all students.