

# Designing and Catalyzing Effective District Improvement: The Role of State Education Agencies

## TUESDAY SMALL GROUP PROBLEM-SOLVING SESSIONS

### GUIDING QUESTIONS

#### Articulating the Problem Space: District Improvement and the Role of the State

What are the central challenges impeding district improvement efforts? From whose perspective?

How can SEAs best catalyze and support district improvement efforts, especially with respect to those districts targeted for support and to do so at scale? What does this say about the appropriate role of the SEA with respect to district improvement?

How are states attending to contextual aspects of district improvement, including issues related to race and class?

How should the challenges to SEAs' efforts (e.g., issues related to organizational coherence, capacity issues, and resource) be addressed, and by whom?

#### Framing the Outputs – Articulating the Problem Space

Drawing from your group's discussion, provide up to three written recommendations for how SEAs can effectively support and catalyze district improvement efforts. For each recommendation, provide a rationale and, if appropriate, an example of the recommendation or proposed strategy.

#1

#2

#3

#### Gallery Walk Sharing

Please use this time to consider and reflect upon the proposed recommendations, looking for themes and considering the potential of the proposed recommendations.

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The Comprehensive School Reform (CSR)  
Support and Capacity Building Program



Urban Education  
Policy Program