Creativity generates ideas, alternatives, and possibilities to expand thinking beyond traditional rules and patterns. This involves connecting previously unconnected ideas and concepts from across different disciplines to transform existing systems and processes that can address large-scale problems.

Cultivating Creativity
Creativity, by definition, is not bound to a standardized process of thinking; however, there are guiding principles that can inspire your creative problem-solving. For example:

- Allow ample time to create; don’t rush the process.
- Identify relevant examples to spark ideas.
- Combine unrelated ideas to develop new approaches to problem-solving.
- Try new things and visualize expected outcomes.
- Question the current state by asking “what if” instead of accepting the status-quo.
- Revisit failed ideas as an opportunity to pivot your ideas into something new.
- Convene a creative community by identifying members who may be open to discussing new ideas and can stimulate your creative thinking.

Assessing Your Creativity Competency
Creativity is essential to fueling education innovation. As you assess your personal development in creativity, consider whether you have:

- generated alternative ideas and possibilities beyond traditional rules and patterns;
- created novel combinations of concepts from across different contexts or disciplines; and/or
- stimulated and promoted imaginative dialogue.

References