Advancing Your School Design
Transcend’s Support Offerings

About Transcend
Transcend is a national nonprofit that supports communities to create and spread extraordinary, equitable learning environments. We partner with visionary districts, charters, independents, and non-traditional schools. Learn more on our website.

How We Approach Partnerships
Every partnership’s nature and duration is unique, but over time we have found the following three goals to be relevant not only for strong design but also effective implementation:

1. Strong and well-understood conditions for innovation: We have found that five key conditions can make or break the success of any design process. We work together in ways that help you diagnose your conditions and prioritize strategies and actions to strengthen whichever conditions will matter most to your success.

2. Compelling and actionable design products: We believe that effective design begins with a robust “school design articulation,” which includes purpose, graduate aims, design principles, and core experiences. This then enables the building and/or adoption of “system elements”—everything from schedules to curricula to space designs to budgets to roles to technology, and more—that get stitched together to bring the design to life and to allow for the successful implementation of each aspect of the design.

Partnering with us to advance your school design may be a good fit if your school ...

- Is deeply committed to equity and strong learning experiences for every young person.
- Has developed an initial vision for your school design and is now working to build it (including perhaps adopting and integrating pieces from other places), pilot and implement it, and continuously improve it.
- Is looking for partnership—in the form of guidance, capacity-building, tools, or expert talent—to help you perform and/or coordinate the work, whether for the full school design and/or specific issues and topics.
3. Relationships with key supporters and enablers:
No school can possibly know or do everything on its own. We help you expand access to a network of others—from innovative schools, to experts on specific topics and issues you’re tackling, to implementation supporters, to funders, to innovative school models and point solutions you can adopt or stitch together, and more.

In partnering to pursue the above goals, we use an iterative R&D process that supports you to learn, define, build/borrow, and test, while always planning and managing the human side of change. We take a “learning engineering” orientation that draws heavily from research and surfaces ongoing data to inform decisions. Depending on your internal capacity, Transcend can advise, perform, and/or collaborate on any of the above activities. We also often play a role in project managing and coordinating how all the activities come together. And every partner gets access to Transcend’s latest tools, playlists, and resources for school design, in addition to membership in our national design community.

Curious to learn more?
Check out the resources and partners on our [website](#), and get in touch with [explore@transcendeducation.org](mailto:explore@transcendeducation.org).