CAPTURING AND SHARING YOUR 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 six methods to be helpful in situations where partners are working to capture and share their school designs:

1. Clarifying your design. When something special is happening in a learning environment, it’s often hard to identify exactly what is creating this magic. It’s usually a combination of many factors: people, culture, design, implementation, etc. We use a “logic model” framework to map out key design elements and assumptions about what creates impact. This helps teams make decisions about what’s most important to refine, codify, and share.

Partnering with us to capture and share your design may be a good fit if your school...

• Has been developing an innovative learning design, whether whole-school or a set of practices that comprise a significant component of students’ experiences.
• Is already seeing a positive and equitable impact on learners’ experiences and outcomes.
• Is interested in codifying your design and sharing it with other communities to amplify your impact.
2. **Studying your design.** Based on the logic model, we prioritize a learning agenda comprised of a small number of questions to investigate through research, data collection, and analysis. This testing reveals what is strong about the design, where there are gaps, and what cycles of improvement should be prioritized.

3. **Refining your design.** Typically, the above steps reveal some areas where the design can be sharpened. We take a “learning engineering” orientation, with research and cycles of improvement to define, build/borrow, test, and learn in ways that make the design ready for codification and sharing.

4. **Capturing your model.** We use a variety of methods to codify what is most essential about the design. Sometimes, this takes the form of written documentation, such as building a ‘playbook’ and accompanying resources (e.g., plans, rubrics, student-facing materials). Often, it employs other media, such as videos, web-based technology, and professional learning experiences that convey the essential practices as well as the underlying mindsets and skills.

5. **Sharing your design.** Together, we explore and analyze potential sharing strategies, including training institutes, consulting, certification programs, websites, and more. This requires knowing your target adopters and what they want, understanding financial sustainability choices, and determining your organizational setup. We often advise on these choices, directly support the actual sharing processes, and help to study the efficacy and impact with early adopters.

6. **Overall project coordination.** Depending on your internal capacity, Transcend can advise, perform, and/or collaborate on the above activities. We also often play a role in project managing how all of the above pieces come together. This can include developing agile project plans, coordinating the internal and external talent required for the work, and managing the process to ensure strong outcomes within budget and timeline milestones.

**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).