

David Stephen • M. Ed. / Architect • 32 Sheridan Street, #3, Boston, MA 02130



My training and experience as both an educator and a licensed architect give me a unique perspective on the design of innovative learning environments from the inside out. A co-founder of the High Tech High network of charter schools, I have varied experience as a teacher, program manager, writer, curriculum developer, and teacher trainer. During the past 30 years I have had the opportunity to work nationally with leading school reformers on a wide range of successful and cutting-edge curriculum and facility design projects, playing a key role in the creation and/or architectural design of over 100 dynamic schools across the United States and abroad.

## Resumé

### Founder / Educational Planner

New Vista Design

Boston, MA 2006 - Present

I consult nationally with school groups, districts, and architectural firms on the design of forward-thinking school programs and facilities.



Please see my listings of clients, projects, publications, and services at [www.newvistadesign.net](http://www.newvistadesign.net)

### Design Strategist

Architects of Achievement

Seattle, WA 2006 - 2014



I provided architectural consultation and technical assistance to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM - ) focused schools and networks, and worked with school districts to create and implement small and effective learning communities and campuses.

### Design Director

High Tech High Communities

San Diego, CA 2002 - 2006

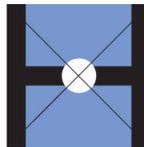
I oversaw the design, detailing, and construction of the first five High Tech High (HTH) school buildings, and played a lead role in the development and production of HTH branding, communications, and fundraising materials, including: websites, videos, newsletters, and outreach materials.



### Curriculum Coordinator

High Tech High

San Diego, CA 2000-2002



I orchestrated curriculum planning and professional development at High Tech High during its first two years of operation, focusing on the facilitation of cross-discipline teaching teams, the development of performance-based assessment methods, and the cultivation of a vibrant teaching and learning culture.

### Research Associate

Big Picture Company

Cambridge, MA 1997 - 2000

I worked on the federally funded New Urban High School Project to research, document, and develop exemplary school reform strategies, offer technical assistance, and facilitate inter-site conferences and project-based learning workshops.



### Teacher/Program Manager

Cambridge Rindge & Latin High School

Cambridge, MA 1991 - 1997



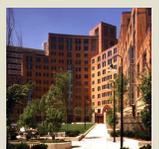
I co-developed, taught, and managed the award-winning 9th grade CityWorks Program, engaging students in a hands-on, integrated curriculum based on community exploration, service, and development.

### Project Architect

JP Associates / Russell Architects /  
Community Builders

Boston, MA 1983 - 1991

I worked as the lead architectural designer and project manager on a variety of public housing, hospital, and public transportation projects.



Education • M. Ed., Lesley College • B. Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design



## David Stephen • M. Ed. / Architect

David Stephen's professional life straddles the two worlds of architectural design and education reform. As a licensed architect he has over 25 years of experience facilitating the building design and construction process. As a teacher and education reformer, he has 20 years of experience partnering with some of the country's leading educational visionaries, and working nationwide to imagine, develop, and implement innovative school programs and facilities.

## Biography



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Increasingly, David's focus has turned to the design of forward-thinking school buildings that explicitly address and support their program's curricular goals while also examining and meeting the changing needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. To these ends, he has played a key role in the architectural design of over 100 new and reforming elementary, middle, and high schools. David's recent projects include the nationally acclaimed High Tech High network of schools, the Da Vinci network of schools, the Dearborn STEM Academy and Oracle d.Tech High School.

David founded New Vista Designs for Learning in 2006 as a Boston-based design firm that works with schools, districts, charter management organizations, and architectural firms across the U.S. and internationally to facilitate the design of dynamic, inquiry-based, and STEAM- (Science, Technology, Art, Engineering and Math) focused environments for teaching, learning, and work. Additionally, New Vista offers workshops and ongoing technical assistance in the development of project-based and STEAM-focused curricula and teacher training programs.

With his knowledge of how schools work from the "inside-out," David enjoys working with teachers, students, administrators and other key stakeholders to assist them in clarifying their academic visions, developing robust and inquiry-based curricula, and aligning learning goals to their architectural building programs. By reviewing and critiquing building designs as they progress through all phases of the design process, David strives to ensure that buildings stay true to the initial vision of their design teams while maintaining maximum adaptability for future growth and evolution.

In addition to his national consulting work, David co-authored *Architecture for Achievement: Building Patterns for Small School Learning* (Eagle Chatter Press, 2007, available at Amazon.com). Over the past 6 years, he has served as an Educational Planner during the Feasibility Study phase for over 30 K-12 public school projects that have been designed and built through funding from, and oversight of, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). David has served for the past eight years as Co-Chair and lead facilitator of the LEFT (Learning Environments for Tomorrow) Institute at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The LEFT Institute is a yearly program that attracts architects and educators from around the world who come together to share best practices in forward-thinking school design.

David is a co-founder of High Tech High (HTH) and the HTH network of charter schools in San Diego, CA. He served from 2002-2006 as HTH Director of Design, overseeing the programmatic development, conceptual design, and construction management of the first five HTH facilities. From 2000-2002, David served as HTH Academic Coordinator. The highly successful HTH network of schools is visited by more than 5,000 educators and architects each year. For more information about High Tech High, please visit [www.hightechhigh.org](http://www.hightechhigh.org).

David was also a member of the research team that wrote *Dollars and Sense II: Lessons from Good, Cost Effective Small Schools* (Knowledgeworks, 2005). From 1996-1999, he served as a Research Associate for the New Urban High School Project, a federally funded initiative to assist and document the work of cutting edge high schools nationwide. Prior to that he served for seven years as a high school teacher, and co-creator of the award winning CityWorks program at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School. David received a B. Arch from Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, and earned an M. Ed. from Lesley College, Cambridge, MA.

## Contact Info

Cell: (617) 733-0847 • [david@newvistadesign.net](mailto:david@newvistadesign.net) • [www.newvistadesign.net](http://www.newvistadesign.net)