

KERRY LEONARD, AIA

PROFESSIONAL GOAL

Develop and implement process and tools to assist educators in designing innovative educational facilities. Advance a culture of continual improvement within schools to create, maintain, improve and enhance educational facilities in the service of the student, staff, and the community.

- Organize and lead the process to help schools assess, plan, and implement facility improvements
- Use the design process to explore options engaging educators in shaping the learning environment to support multiple and changing learning models
- Assess the physical condition of existing buildings, systems, and components and develop plans to maximize the value of existing assets
- Assess the educational performance of existing spaces
- Identify facility improvements that can transform the learning environment to support the learning process
- Assist in the prioritization of needs, balancing available resources, facility needs, and educational goals
- Facilitate school and community-wide groups to develop an understanding of the connection between the physical learning environment, learning activities, and learning outcomes
- Manage client teams, design professionals, and contractors to plan
- Use research tools and data to make better facility related decisions



"I believe we have a responsibility to make better place for learning through design"

CAREER SUMMARY AND RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kerry Leonard is a K-12 Architect with progressive experience serving public and independent clients in the local, regional and national arenas. Proven leadership, bringing to people and projects a deep understanding of how educational facility design can help clients advance their educational mission. An expert in creating leading edge places of learning through inclusive and innovative planning techniques.

FGM ARCHITECTS, INC, Oak Brook, IL

2013 - 2016

Vice-President and Principal PK12 Education Practice Area

Principal-in-Charge responsibilities for public and independent educational clients including master planning, programming, project development, design - construction phases, zoning and local authority approval process.

CANNON DESIGN | OWP/P, Chicago, IL

1995 - 2013

Principal- K12 Education Group

Responsibilities included project leadership, educational expertise to project teams, vision to support the K12 market strategy and development of external national and local education networks to enhance the K12 market.

EXPERIENCE

Projects for over sixty school clients and hundreds of school facilities including twenty-two new buildings in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Pennsylvania and Oklahoma. Projects have been recognized by local and national education organizations including a MacConnell Award, Shirley Cooper Award, William W. Caudill Citation, and AIA Committee on Architecture for Education Merit Award.

SELECTED CLIENTS AND PROJECTS

PARK RIDGE NILES SCHOOL DISTRICT 64, Park Ridge, IL

AVERY COONLEY SCHOOL, Downers Grove, IL

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS, Chicago, IL

JOHN W. REX CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Oklahoma City, OK

SELECTED CLIENT LIST (continued)

IDA CROWN JEWISH ACADEMY, Skokie, IL
 MT. LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT, Mt Lebanon, PA
 MOTHER McAULEY LIBERAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL, Chicago, IL
 FENWICK HIGH SCHOOL, Oak Park, IL
 NORTH SHORE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL, Winnetka, IL
 LESLIE SHANKMAN SCHOOL CORPORATION, Chicago, IL
 CHAMPAIGN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 4, Champaign, IL
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25, Arlington Heights, IL
 ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY, Aurora, IL
 ANTIOCH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 117, Antioch, IL
 ROCHELLE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 212, Rochelle, IL
 OAK PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT 97, Oak Park, IL
 WOODLAND COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 50, Gurnee, IL
 SKOKIE FAIRVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT 72, Skokie, IL
 WATERLOO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, Waterloo, IA

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Kerry's career has focused on working with educators, architects, school and community leadership, parents, and regulatory authorities to create educational environments that could not have been possible without the entire team's commitment and effort. The following represent some of the activities outside of the planning, design, and construction of projects where Kerry has furthered his goal of innovative educational facility design.

AMERICAN ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION (AAF) DESIGN FOR LEARNING PROGRAM

AAF is a non-profit providing design leadership training to elected officials, public-private partnerships, education leaders, and business leaders. Design for Learning guides school districts to envision the physical space needed to optimize learning and to assist educational leaders in managing the transformation of the learning environment.

Design for Learning and its predecessor program Great Schools by Design help create 21st century learning environments from 20th century schools by enabling school leadership, and empowering educators to seize the opportunity for change. Teaming with architects in a charrette process the program demonstrates to a district leadership's their essential role in the design process and design as a tool to support educational change.

Senior Fellow and Architectural Advisor for Design for Learning Program (DfL) since 2013 and Advisor for Great Schools by Design Program (GSbD), 2003 to 2012 – Responsibilities included program and event strategy, grant proposals, planning, program management and consultation for the programs including:

- Assisting six school districts in the transformation of existing facilities into personalized learning environments, through a grant from The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation • Architectural Advisor
- Charrette Workshops and Leadership Forums with over thirty-five school districts and over fifteen charrette events • Recruited Resource Teams, Event Planning, Facilitator
- 2015 National Summit on School Design • Conference Planning, Presenter and Breakout Session Facilitator
- Galtier School, Saint Paul Public Schools Charrette, Leadership Forum, Transfer Charrette, and Post Occupancy Evaluation funded through a grant from Target Corporation • Program Management
- ReDesign Your School; A Contest of Scholarly Proportions conducted in partnership with Target Corporation •Contest Design, National Juror, Project Research Team.

GOOD SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE

Contributor and reviewer to the publication *“Good School Maintenance, A manual of programs and procedures for buildings, grounds and equipment”* Fourth Edition edited by James B. Fritts, published by Service Associates and Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), September 2008. Ongoing development of facility strategies for Good School Maintenance presentations at the IASB Annual Joint Conference including a 2009 Roundtable, presentations in 2010 through 2015 and scheduled presentation for 2016. Currently planning, with IASB and local facility directors, an updated version of the publication to become a text book for Illinois Association of School Business Officials Designation Committee for Facilities Operations.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES RESEARCH

Over the past 15 years Kerry's career has focused on educational facilities research studying the impact of the environment on learning and teaching activities and providing immediate strategies for practitioners to use in the design of educational spaces. The success or failure of physical space designed for learning and teaching activities requires measurement against the design criteria which were established at the beginning of the design process.

The intentionality of the design related to planned activities in addition to the non-intentional impact on human activity of the environment requires thoughtful study to further inform future designs. Some of Kerry's activities in this area include:



New Jersey Institute of Technology Center for Building Knowledge (NJIT CBK)

The Infrastructure-Enabled Classroom: Combining Design and Technology to Create 21st Century Learning Environments an R&D Project for Newark Public Schools (NPS). (2013)

The NJIT Center for Building Knowledge undertook a systematic, integrated research program to investigate and document the most current, innovative thinking on creating 21st Century Learning Environments and apply the findings from this investigation to the particular context of Newark Public Schools identifying low-cost/high impact solutions that will allow NPS to leapfrog current practice and create infrastructure-enabled classrooms for 21st century learning - Consultation, guidance and technical assistance to NJIT CBK

Research Work Projects

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) - Flexible School Design Study (completed 2015)

Educational facility design is now responding to changing educational needs and incorporating flexibility as a design guideline for new educational spaces. This study analyzed new prototype CPS building systems relative to the useful life, cost and adaptability of buildings to changing educational needs.

Chicago Public School (CPS) - Benchmarking Analysis (completed 2013)

Report analyzing construction costs and program areas for fourteen elementary schools in Chicago, suburbs and selected other cities, conducted the data analysis and prepared summary benchmarking CPS elementary school projects with national trends.

AAF Redesign Your School: A Contest of Scholarly Proportions (2009)

The data set of 250 student entries to the AAF and Target's Redesign Your School: A Contest of Scholarly Proportions was used to understand the voice of the student. The objective of the research was to uncover critical issues as seen by the most underrepresented voice in school design: the students. Five core themes were used as the basis for the Voice of the Student Design Charrette in 2008. - Advisor to AAF and member of OWP/P Research Team

Education / Professional Affiliations / Detail Project Experience / Additional National Activities / Publications / Speaking Engagements / Awards available