

Biography

Dr. Ted Spear's lifelong fascination with the purpose and practices of K-12 education has spanned a career of over 25 years working as a teacher and administrator in public and independent schools. After completing a doctorate in Policy Studies in Education, he and a small group of dedicated parents founded Island Pacific School, an independent middle school in British Columbia. It was there that he learned what is most central and important about giving students an education that is worthy of the name. He also served as a middle school principal in an independent school in Vancouver, and co-founded another high school on Vancouver Island.

No matter what the context, Dr. Spear has always encouraged parents and educators alike to pursue the deepest and richest purposes of education. He has made numerous public presentations on the potential and pitfalls of contemporary schooling with titles like:

- Schooling and Parenting in the 21st Century: What is Good And Not So Good
- What Education Could Be: Reformulating Education One Remarkable Initiative at a Time
- Education in a Changing World: What's Coming and What We Need to Do About It
- *Masterworks* (and the Future of Education)

He also co-wrote, with his teaching staff, a practical guide on implementing educational technology, entitled <u>The Blended Learning Pilots at Island Pacific School</u>, and has recently completed a book about the future of K-12 education, which is now available on Amazon.

Dr. Spear's investigations of educational philosophy and student assessment, his ongoing research of contemporary educational innovations, and most importantly, his extensive practical experience working with parents and educators allow him to offer a unique perspective on the core questions of educational purpose and delivery. He is a compelling and ultimately optimistic voice for the future of grade school education.

He is available for media interviews, podcasts and speaking engagements.



Sales Copy Short

Ted Spear's new book — Education Reimagined: The Schools Our Children Need — argues that we need to transform schools, first by committing to a deeper and richer core purpose of education, and then by having the courage to re-engineer the day-to-day structural elements of school to deliver on that purpose. It also proposes that a strong partnership between informed parents and passionate educators is absolutely essential to the project of changing schools for the better.



Sales Copy Long

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The work begins with a human interest story about starting a school from the ground up, and then quickly moves to an exploration of the educational landscape as a whole. It describes the transition from traditional to contemporary schooling; suggests a different way of looking at educational technology; includes a pivotal critique of student assessment practices; examines the changing role of teachers and principals, and critically surveys a number of structural innovations that are currently taking place in outlier schools. Dr. Spear concludes with a snapshot of what a re-engineered high school might look like and two chapters for educators and parents about how to move forward.

The book is for parents who want something better for their kids out of our schools, and for world-weary and idealistic educators who know something is not quite right with the current state of affairs but cannot quite put their finger on the problem. For parents, it lifts the veil on the challenges and possibilities of contemporary education and recruits them as allies in improving schools. For educators, it shows them the structural changes they can make that will untie their hands to follow their deepest intuitions what they know to be central and important about grade school education.

It is a book that will change the way we think about schools.



Head Shot and Product Shot







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