

## Using the Design Principles to Explore History and Culture

*Based on his work with schools and students, school designer Steven Levy believes that the design principles might provide a generative lens for analyzing culture if a teachers pose to their students a series of guiding questions to the design principles*

### 1. The Primacy of Self-Discovery

- *What were the passions of the people?*
- *What obstacles did they overcome?*

### 2. The Having of Wonderful Ideas

- *What great ideas did they have?*

### 3. The Responsibility for Learning

- *What was the relationship of the individual to the society?*
- *What opportunities did the members of the society have to direct their own lives?*

### 4. Empathy and Caring

- *How did they take care of each other?*
- *Who was left out?*

### 5. Success and Failure

- *Where did they succeed as a culture?*
- *Where did they fall?*
- *Did they learn from their mistakes?*

### 6. Collaboration and Competition

- *What did they want to improve?*
- *How did they get better?*
- *How did they work together?*

### 7. Diversity and Inclusion

- *What sub-groups were represented in the culture?*
- *Who had power, who was left out?*

### 8. The Natural World

- *What was their relationship to nature?*
- *How were they shaped by it, and how did they try to shape it?*

### 9. Solitude and Reflection

- *What did they do when they were alone?*
- *How did they think about themselves?*

### 10. Service and Compassion

- *How did they treat the needy?*
- *Is there any evidence of kindness or care to others?*