

February 11, 2026

Upper Arlington Education Foundation

An Announcement About Leadership Succession Planning at UA+Ed

A message from Alice Finley, Executive Director

Friends of UA+Ed,

The Upper Arlington Education Foundation is guided by a mission to provide meaningful opportunities for students today and for generations to come. Since its earliest days, UA+Ed has steadily grown thanks to thoughtful leadership, strong partnerships, and strategic vision. Thanks to each of you for being part of this impactful journey.

I am reaching out to share my decision to prepare for my retirement.

The timing feels right for me. My connection to UA+Ed goes back to 2009, and over the years I have proudly served as a volunteer, trustee, board chair, employee, and since 2018, executive director. I look forward to spending more time with my husband Price and our boys Rees (UAHS '11) and Perry (UAHS '14), reconnecting with friends, reading, and traveling to sunny places during the winter months.

UA+Ed is in a good place for this change of leadership. The foundation is strong, with engaged and aligned board members and an exceptional staff. By planning this transition now, the board can take a thoughtful—rather than reactive—approach to identifying and selecting UA+Ed's next leader. This intentional process will help preserve institutional knowledge, ensure alignment with strategic priorities, and provide ongoing confidence among the school district, families, community members, alumni, and business partners.

During this time of transition, I remain fully committed to my role as executive director and to advancing the work of the Upper Arlington Education Foundation. This planning effort reflects my belief, and the board's, that by working together, we can prepare thoughtfully for the future while continuing to do important work today.

Thank you for your trust and support of UA+Ed.

Alice Finley
Executive Director
Upper Arlington Education Foundation

The Next Steps from Jennifer Duffy, Board Chair

Dear Friends of UA+Ed,

On behalf of the Upper Arlington Education Foundation Board of Trustees, I am writing to share our plans for a transition in leadership.

Alice Finley, who has served as our exceptional executive director since 2018, shared her retirement plans with the board at our annual retreat on Saturday, January 31. We are sharing the news with you as our supporters who care deeply about the foundation.

Alice has been a steady, thoughtful, and passionate leader. Thanks to her vision and commitment, the Foundation has grown in both reach and impact, strengthening meaningful opportunities for students, educators and our entire community now and into the future.

Alice will continue serving as executive director throughout the transition, which we anticipate will take several months. During this time, the board's succession planning committee, guided by a plan approved in 2023, will work closely with Alice to ensure a smooth and thoughtful transition. UA+Ed is in a strong and stable position, and we are confident in our ability to carry forward the momentum and mission that Alice has helped build.

We are incredibly grateful for Alice's leadership and friendship and appreciate her ongoing leadership and partnership as the organization prepares for a thoughtful transition. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any additional questions or comments. Thank you for your continued support of UA+Ed.

Sincerely,
Jen Duffy
2026 Board Chair

Contact information

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