



**BOARD CHAIR**  
**UNITED WORLD SCHOOLS USA**  
[United World Schools](#)



**united world schools**  
teach the unreachable

The Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with United World Schools USA in the search for its first US-based Board Chair.

The Board Chair will help guide the growth of United World Schools (UWS) in the United States' philanthropic, international development, and media sectors. The Board Chair will be committed to ensuring out-of-school children in the world's most remote communities have access to high performing classrooms, and will use their experience, resources, and networks to help nurture UWS-USA. The Board Chair will help guide UWS's growth in key US market segments, and will be a partner to the global Board and its Chair, Peter Taylor. The Board Chair will oversee proper Board and executive management structures, and maintain a fiducially sound non-profit enterprise. The Board Chair will serve for a term of 3 years.

United World Schools was founded in 2009 with a single school in a remote village in Cambodia. Today, the UK-based NGO runs 260 schools in communities unreachable even by other high achieving NGOs. With a model based on an unwavering commitment to quality education that always meets or exceeds national standards, and a relentless pursuit of cost efficiency that allows schools to be built for less than \$40,000 and operated at an average of \$10,000 annually; no other organization has pioneered such a unique and achievable vision for bringing the world's out-of-school children into classrooms. This rapid growth and scale of ambition continues to drive the organization forward every day.

By providing children with access to free elementary education, UWS addresses a primary cause of long-term poverty and deprivation. Its simple-but-flexible approach aligns with the national curriculum in each country in which it operates, while supporting locally trained teachers' efforts to deliver context-appropriate curricula. Within 5-7 years, schools are transitioned into national systems to ensure sustainability and replicability is maintained within the UWS system.

The COVID crisis has exposed an even deeper global education crisis. For the first time in years, the number of out-of-school children will increase as children fail to return to reopened schools; and many schools will never reopen at all. UWS believes that with crisis comes opportunity. That is why UWS-USA was launched – to engage the United States more fully in helping return the world's students to classrooms.

No country on earth has more influence on global education policy; nor resources available to impact it. UWS-USA is also poised to expand its flagship partner-school Global Citizenship programs connecting UWS schools to K-12 school across the US.

UWS-USA was founded in 2019 by the global Board of United World Schools and has been Chaired by long-time UWS global Chairman Chris Outram. Throughout 2020, UWS-USA focused on assembling a founding US Board and staff and raising initial funds from a US donor base. In March 2021, the US Board determined conditions were right to recruit a permanent US-based Chair to succeed Mr. Outram.

## **ABOUT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Directors of the United World Schools USA Board are committed partners in a shared goal of getting as many out-of-school children in the world's unreached communities into classrooms. Working closely with the United World Schools Global Board and staff based in the UK, the US Directors are key partners in raising the resources, profile, and opportunities necessary to achieve the inevitable long-term goal of ensuring a classroom for every child in every country where one is needed.

UWS-USA works closely with the UWS Global Board and leadership, while maintaining operational autonomy as required by US law. Its founding Board currently has seven members, including the UWS global CEO who serves as an ex-officio and permanent member of the US Board.

Directors provide the overall leadership needed to ensure United World Schools USA delivers on its mission to reach an ever-increasing number of out-of-school children in the world's most remote communities; ensure proper governance of United World Schools USA; enable and advise the US Executive Team to execute the mission as charged by the Board; develop the US donor base by supporting, enabling, and advising fundraising and partner-school efforts; establish and agree to both annual and three-year business plans for UWS-USA that include core objectives, organizational goals, and defined financial targets; support the development of mission-driven partner-school programming reaching schools and students across the United States; and safeguard and promote the UWS brand in the United States.

There are currently six founding Directors in addition to the Interim Chair: Noted entrepreneur and longtime UWS donor Philippe Delouvrier; Executive Vice President of Global Communications, PVH Corp, Cindy Leggett-Flynn; renowned author and screenwriter Jennifer Hamm; former attorney, non-profit CEO, and Obama Administration Deputy Under Secretary David Klaus; President and CEO of Grandview Advisors and former Managing Director of BritishAmerican Business (BABi), Wendy Mendenhall, MBE; and United World Schools Global CEO Tim Howarth.

## **PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES**

United World Schools USA is seeking a Board Chair that will

- provide appropriate oversight of the Board and staff and ensure each body adheres to established goals and strategy;
- serve as a primary, credible, and compelling spokesperson and advocate for United World Schools in the United States;
- work closely with the US Executive Director and Board of Directors, and UWS-Global Chair;
- agree to hold an ex-officio seat on UWS-Global Board and participate in global Board meetings, typically in London, 3-4 times per year (virtually or in-person); and
- make an annual financial contribution to UWS-USA and utilize personal networks to encourage others to do the same.

## **KEY COLLEAGUES**

### **Tim Howarth**

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

Under Tim's leadership, UWS has reached over 36,000 previously out-of-school-children through education with a network of over 220 UWS Community Schools in remote regions of South East Asia. Tim is a trained teacher. Prior to his time at UWS, he has worked in a number of schools and educational organisations in the UK and Australia, responsible for staff performance, development, and training. As an educational consultant, Tim has also worked with headteachers and school leaders to develop teaching and leadership capacity in UK schools. Since 2011, Tim increasingly devoted his time to growing and scaling the work of UWS, a charity that his family founded in 2009. He became Chief Operating Officer in 2012, and Chief Executive in 2015. Tim is a Fellow of the RSA and since 2019 has been listed on the UK Social Entrepreneur Index, which recognises the UK's most

influential social entrepreneurs. Tim lives in London with his young family and, when time allows, is also a keen kitesurfer, runner, and skier.

**Greg Houston**

**Executive Director, United World Schools USA**

Greg oversees expansion into the US market. His past roles include Chief Executive Officer of the USA Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai (Dubai World Fair); Global Vice President at Search for Common Ground; Senior Vice President of Programs and External Affairs at Meridian International Center; and Director of Development and New Initiatives at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Greg began his career working for Arizona Senator John McCain. He has since worked for and advised leading political figures in formal and voluntarily capacities and has been involved in numerous political campaigns. Greg holds a Master's with Merit from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in Public Administration with a concentration on global market economics and obtained his undergraduate degree from the honors college of the University of Arizona. In 2012 he was named a Social Entrepreneurship Fellow (PLD, Class of 1972 Endowment) at Harvard University (HBS).

**Peter Taylor,**

**Chair, Board of Trustees**

Peter was co-founder and managing partner of Duke Street, the leading private equity firm behind many successful growth companies such as Wagamama, Simple, Oasis Healthcare and Wickes. In his early career, Peter qualified as a chartered accountant and spent a number of years as finance director of Sea Life Centres during its first move into international markets. In recent years, he has increased his commitment to non-profit activities, with a particular focus on education.

**Chris Outram**

**Trustee, Interim Board Chair, United World Schools USA**

Chris is the founder and chairman emeritus of OC&C Strategy Consultants, one of the world's leading strategy consultancies, operating out of ten countries around the world with over 500 consultants. Chris is passionate about supporting socially, economically, and educationally deprived children onto the education ladder. Chris focuses on United World Schools' strategic development and fundraising plans.

**PREFERRED PROFILE**

The Board of Trustees recognizes there is no single quality, qualification, or experience path expected of the Board Chair, other than a demonstrated commitment to the mission of United World Schools USA. The Board is actively seeking expressions of interest from individuals with backgrounds in business, international development, education, and/or philanthropy. Social enterprise experience is highly valued, as is experience across multiple sectors, including non-profit, entrepreneurial, government, and/or corporate sectors. United World Schools is an inclusive organization. Diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and sets of experiences are immensely helpful in growing the organization along the vision established at its inception. Leadership development experience, particularly in growing organizations, is highly valuable at this early stage of UWS-USA's growth. A proven track record of exceeding goals; evidence of the ability to consistently make good decisions through a combination of analysis, wisdom, experience, and judgment; high level of business acumen, problem solving; mentorship; culture management; and creative resourcefulness is sought as is past experience managing a non-profit or international NGO Board of Directors, including oversight of compliance, controls, and best-practices in IRS and IRC non-profit Board governance.

**TO LEARN MORE**

*To learn more about this opportunity, please contact Ron Schiller, [ronschiller@aspenleadershipgroup.com](mailto:ronschiller@aspenleadershipgroup.com).*