FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Christine Lynch
KEH Communications
410-975-9638
christine@kehcomm.com

Foundations in Learning Appoints Allie Burns to Board of Directors

Burns brings 25 years of philanthropy, impact investing, and social enterprise experience to support the company's mission to improve literacy outcomes

IOWA CITY, Iowa, November 4, 2026 — Foundations in Learning, creator of the WordFlight® literacy intervention solution, has appointed Allie Burns to its board of directors. Burns brings more than 25 years of experience in philanthropy, impact investing, and social enterprise to the education company, where she will help guide its continued growth and efforts to expand learning opportunities for students through evidence-based literacy tools.

"Allie's expertise in growing and supporting mission-driven organizations is invaluable as we enter our next phase of growth and look to help even more students become fluent, confident readers," said Allison Zimmermann, CEO of Foundations in Learning. "Her shared commitment to unlocking educational opportunity for all students, along with her successful track record of building impactful organizations, makes her a great fit for our board."

Burns is an independent advisor to mission-driven organizations, corporate and institutional foundations, and impact investment firms, focusing on strategy, capital structuring, and strengthening local investment ecosystems. Most recently, Burns served for nearly a decade as CEO of Village Capital, a venture development organization focused on supporting entrepreneurs. During her tenure, she grew the organization from $3 million to more than $12 million in annual revenue, established an in-house impact investment practice, and developed Abaca, a technology platform that reached more than 37,000 entrepreneurs worldwide.

Previously, she worked with the Case Foundation and Revolution to help launch and grow the Startup America Partnership, a national initiative to accelerate high-growth entrepreneurship, and contributed to the Rise of the Rest movement, which champions founders outside traditional startup hubs.

Her broader experience includes speaking at SOCAP, SXSW, the Fast Company Innovation Festival, and COP26, as well as contributing to Fast Company, Forbes, and the World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda. Across these roles, Burns has worked at the intersection of entrepreneurship, investment, and social impact, helping organizations build the capacity to scale their work.

"I've spent my career working to make sure opportunity isn't determined by where someone starts, and that begins with learning to read," said Burns. "Foundations in Learning turns decades of research into real progress for students who need it most, helping level the playing field one reader at a time. I'm looking forward to supporting the company as it expands its impact nationally."

To learn more about Foundations in Learning and WordFlight, visit www.wordflight.com.

About WordFlight®

WordFlight® is the first patented literacy assessment and intervention for Grades 3-8 that bridges the gap between phonics and fluency. Created by researchers and program developers with decades of experience in providing schools with effective programs to meet the individual needs of students, the program is a proven and research-based solution that blends the best of the science of reading and the science of learning to help develop fluent readers. WordFlight is a registered trademark of Foundations in Learning, a learning company based in Iowa City, Iowa. To learn more, visit www.wordflight.com.

# # #