

EMBARGOED – Until 7:00 a.m. Aug. 11, 2015

***Education Week* Acquires Award-Winning TV Production Company**

Move Expands Reach of the Nation's Leading Pre-K-12 News Organization

Washington, D.C. (Aug. 11, 2015)—*Education Week*, the nation's premier independent provider of pre-K-12 news and analysis, is expanding its multiplatform journalism to television and digital video with the acquisition of Learning Matters. The move reflects the continued evolution and acumen of an established business-to-business publisher that has grown its business and audience while navigating a volatile era in publishing.

Education Week, the flagship of the Bethesda, Md.-based nonprofit publisher Editorial Projects in Education, will integrate the talented staff of Learning Matters into its editorial operations effective Aug. 11, 2015. For more than two decades, the nonprofit Learning Matters, founded by John Merrow and based in New York City, has been celebrated for its award-winning video news segments and documentaries on the nation's schools. The acquisition will enable *Education Week* to build on Learning Matters' history of producing broadcast-quality education coverage for the PBS NewsHour, and its own digital-video portfolio on pre-K-12 policy and practice.

"For more than three decades, *Education Week* has chronicled and analyzed the important shifts underway in education," says Virginia B. Edwards, the president and editor-in-chief of *Education Week* and EPE. "The acquisition of Learning Matters represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to better serve EPE's existing audiences and to reach new audiences with the nation's most trusted, authoritative, and balanced news and information on education. Video engages consumers like no other medium, and EPE, through its trusted *Education Week* brand, is poised to leverage the new dissemination outlet to an ever-increasing audience."

"I spent 20 years working with some very talented people at Learning Matters producing compelling education coverage for television," Merrow says, "so the thought that it might go away was keeping me up nights. But it was clear to me—and to everyone I asked for advice—that there is only one organization with the expertise, talent, and reputation to continue this work, and that's *EdWeek*."

Education Week reporters and editors will work with Learning Matters' correspondents and producers to develop a wide range of video, audio, and podcast stories about schooling in America, shining a light on best practices in the field as well as the issues and challenges facing schools, educators, students, and communities. The acquisition unites the strengths and sensibilities of the well-regarded organizations: *Education Week's* reputation as the trusted newspaper of record on education, and the powerful storytelling of Learning Matters TV.

At a time when many news organizations have struggled to sustain their audiences and even their businesses, the nonprofit *Education Week* is a success story. The legacy news operation has not only survived the media disruption, but leveraged it, catalyzing its authoritative coverage with even more engaging and diversified forms of journalism.

"We're incredibly enthusiastic about the opportunities this gives us to serve and to grow our audience with engaging, well-informed coverage of pre-K-12 education, as well as higher education, and to develop partnerships with well-respected organizations like the PBS NewsHour," says Michele Givens, the publisher and general manager of *Education Week* and EPE.

Founded in 1981, *Education Week* has been the most comprehensive source for pre-K-12 professionals, researchers, policymakers, and advocates, with daily news and insights as well as provocative commentary distributed across multiple digital channels and in a weekly newspaper.

The integration of Learning Matters into *Education Week* ensures the future of a broadcast company with a mission of informing the public about what's happening inside schools and setting the stage for national debate. The Learning Matters team has produced more than 30 documentaries and filed hundreds of reports for the PBS NewsHour, earning Emmy nominations and a coveted George Foster Peabody Award.

A grant from The SeaChange-Lodestar Fund for Nonprofit Collaboration will help underwrite the legal costs associated with the acquisition.

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Editorial Projects in Education (EPE) is the independent, nonprofit publisher of *Education Week* and other print and online products serving educators, researchers, policymakers, and the public with high-quality reporting and analysis on K-12 education. EPE's mission is to raise awareness and understanding of critical issues facing American schools.