

## For Immediate Release

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### Great Minds' Nell McAnelly Honored with Lifetime Service award by Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics

**Nov. 30, 2016** — Great Minds, a nonprofit that creates and distributes standards-based, knowledge-rich curricula for grades PK – 12, congratulates Nell McAnelly, educator and Chairperson of the Great Minds Board of Trustees, on receiving the Lifetime Service to Mathematics Education Award from the Louisiana Association of the Teachers of Mathematics (LATM).

“Louisiana's math education leaders have recognized Nell for her extraordinary contributions to the advancement of math education in Louisiana” noted Lynne Munson, President and Executive Director of Great Minds. “I can’t imagine a more deserving recipient of this award in Louisiana – or any other state. Nell oversaw the creation of Eureka Math, now used by the majority of America's elementary teachers.”

McAnelly first joined Great Minds (then known as Common Core) in 2011 as part of a small team of educators and mathematicians who came together to develop a Pre-K to 12 math curriculum carefully aligned to rigorous new college- and career-ready standards. A year later, she became project director of the effort. The following year, the curriculum was delivered and EngageNY Math (aka Eureka Math) was born. Within 24 months, more than 30 million downloads of the curriculum had been recorded. A 2016 RAND Corporation study found Eureka Math/EngageNY to be the most widely used math curriculum in the country.

Prior to working with Great Minds, McAnelly taught math at the high school and university level for three decades. She continues advising the Gordon A. Cain Center for STEM Literacy at Louisiana State University, which she helped to transform into a major education research and outreach hub during her 30 years of teaching and service at LSU. Her past awards include the BP Amoco Award for Outstanding Teaching and the George H. Deer Distinguished Teaching Award.

In Louisiana, McAnelly played a central role in establishing the Elementary Math Specialist certification and Instructional Coaching Leadership Endorsement. She also helped develop the Pilot Professional Development Program funded by the Louisiana Board of Regents.

#### About Great Minds:

A group of education leaders founded the non-profit Great Minds in 2007 to define and encourage knowledge-rich comprehensive education for all American schoolchildren. In pursuit of that mission, Great Minds brings schoolteachers together in collaboration with scholars to craft exemplary instructional materials and share them with the field. Great Minds' *Eureka Math* curriculum has won accolades at the state and national levels, and is the only comprehensive math curriculum aligned to the Common Core State Standards at every grade. This fall, the nonprofit released [Wit & Wisdom](#), a new ELA curriculum that taps the power of literature, history and science to meet the expectations of the new standards.

For more information, please visit [GreatMinds.org](http://GreatMinds.org).