Teachers Rita Egbert and Katie Dewey Win the Golden Apple Award

The Christensen Law Firm Gives \$100 Gift Card For Classroom Supplies

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRAPER, UT, May 9 – The School Supplies Gift Program, sponsored by Utah-based <u>Christensen Law Firm</u>, is pleased to announce that **Ms**. **Rita Egbert**, a fourth grade teacher at Peruvian Park Elementary, and **Ms**. **Katie Dewey**, a fifth grade teacher at Brookwood Elementary, are the next recipients of the Golden Apple Award.

Ms. Rita Egbert is an outstanding teacher who has taught school for 25 years. Before she embarked on her long journey of teaching, she received a Masters Degree in Education with an emphasis on Gifted Students. She has since focused her efforts on teaching advanced students through programs like the S.A.L.T.A. Program at the Canyons Schools District. In order to keep up and stay prepared with her gifted students, she has to work a 60 hour work week. About her teaching advanced learners, she said, "The best part of teaching my advanced learners is their excitement about learning, how they can't wait for the next hands-on science lesson, and seeing them share their experiences and knowledge with each other. I NEVER have a dull moment at my job."

Ms. Egbert's nominator said, "She cares about students...the energy, the caring, the work and love she has for her students, no one can compare with her. From years of my teaching career, I have never seen one like her." Overall, Ms. Egbert is a very gifted teacher who deserves to be recognized for her efforts and successes in teaching.

Ms. Katie Dewey has been teaching school for 7 years. The best way to describe Ms. Dewey's teaching methods can be found in her own words: "I enjoy learning new ways to reach these 21st century learners." New computers, iPad's, Kindles, and projector systems make up a large part of how Mrs. Dewey reaches those students. The new generations that spring up in this highly technological world need a specific kind of teacher; Ms. Dewey is that teacher. Her ability to understand and disseminate knowledge through modern technology has reached students who may not have others wise been reached.

Ms. Dewey's nominator said, "Students love having Ms. Dewey and feel supported in her class," and that, "Katie has built a reputation as a teacher who cares about her students and challenges them to do their best." Her nominator also recognized the fact that technology is a major influence in students' lives today and that Ms. Dewey does an excellent job utilizing that technology to teach her students. As anyone in this modern world knows, technology is not inexpensive. In order to pay for the high-tech equipment, Ms. Dewey applies for many grants a year. We hope that this modest award will aid her in her efforts to instruct her students.

About the School Supplies Gift Program

Ken Christensen and Russ Hymas, owners of the Christensen Law Firm, recently started the School Supplies Gift Program to help public school teachers get extra classroom supplies without having to spend their own money. Each week the program gives the Golden Apple Award, which includes a \$100 OfficeMax gift card, to a deserving Utah public school teacher and his/her class. Anyone can nominate a teacher for this program, including teachers, students, parents and administrators. To learn more about the program and nominate a teacher, click here.