

Utah Teacher Leslie Edwards Wins the Golden Apple Award

Christensen & Hymas Gives \$100 Gift Card for Classroom Supplies

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRAPER, UT, April 25, 2013 – The School Supplies Gift Program, sponsored by Utah personal injury attorneys at Christensen & Hymas, is pleased to announce that **Mrs. Leslie Edwards**, a 3rd grade teacher at Hawthorne Elementary is the next recipient of the Golden Apple Award.

Mrs. Leslie Edwards is fairly new to teaching, having lived in Saudi Arabia for 22 years where her husband was an engineer with Saudi Aramco. While there she worked for NBC Network News as well as the Saudi Arabian television and radio networks. In 1999 Mrs. Edwards moved to Salt Lake to organize the NBC news bureaus for the 2002 Olympics. While doing all that, a teacher friend asked her to speak to her class about the Middle East. Another teacher asked her to speak to his journalism students about the journalistic process in reporting news and like that she was “bitten by the teaching bug.” After certifying to teach elementary school, she taught 3rd grade at Cottonwood Elementary in the Granite School District from 2002-2004, and then accepted a position in the Salt Lake district teaching 3rd grade at the Gifted/Talented magnet program located at Hawthorne Elementary School. Mrs. Edwards has remained close to her students from her first years at Cottonwood, even though most of them are already in college. In her time at Hawthorne, Ms. Edwards has written a grant for the entire school to have maps, GEO technology, and geography teaching aids in the classrooms, so that students can have an appreciation for the world.

Mrs. Edwards stresses the arts in her curriculum by having either an "art parent" or other volunteer teach both art and music on a weekly basis. In addition to that her class does a play every year. Each year Senator/Astronaut Jake Garn visits her class to inspire her students “not only about the wonders of space, but of the importance of taking advantage of life's opportunities, of grasping educational and other opportunities to prepare for whatever the future may bring.” As a teacher it is clear that Mrs. Edwards truly strives to provide her students with the best learning experiences possible. It truly is an honor to recognize her for this award of which she so deserves.

###

About the School Supplies Gift Program:

Utah personal injury attorneys Ken Christensen and Russ Hymas, owners of Christensen & Hymas, 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](#).