

## Arch Coal Announces 22 Recipients of Its Golden Apple Award in Wyoming

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Wright, Wyo. (May 31, 2006) – Twenty two Wyoming classroom teachers received Arch Coal's "Golden Apple" award today.

"Wyoming's classroom teachers deserve much credit, not just from students and parents, but from the state's businesses, too," according to Arch Coal's Greg Schaefer, vice president of external affairs, western region. "We count on our teachers to increase the knowledge and skills of the state's youth. I am always amazed at the accomplishments of the many talented teachers we have in our state's schools."

The Golden Apple recipients are:

Heidi Christensen	Douglas Primary School	Douglas
Barbara Alice Cook	Deming-Miller Elementary School	Cheyenne
Debbie Dickinson	West Elementary School	Wheatland
Jennifer T. Doolin	Sheridan High School	Sheridan
Cheryl Marie Eastwood	Oregon Trail Elementary School	Casper
Lori Hastert	Monroe Intermediate School	Green River
Susan Jones	Newcastle Middle School	Newcastle
Kathy Kintz	Sunflower Elementary School	Gillette
Juanita Mair	Mountain View Middle School	Mountain View
Ron Miles	Douglas Intermediate School	Douglas
Jennifer Nehl	Fort McKenzie High School	Sheridan
Pamela Jo Nichelson	Washington Elementary School	Green River
Laurie Paronto	Sheridan High School	Sheridan
Janelle Parton	Independence High School	Rock Springs
Lorraine Rudd	Rock Springs High School	Rock Springs
Dianne Sarr	Highland Park Elementary School	Sheridan
Perri Shutts	Fort Caspar Academy	Casper
Lisa Smith	Eastside Elementary School	Cody
Ernest Ford Smith, Jr.	Centennial Junior High School	Casper
Mary Lou Vaske	Laramie Junior High School	Laramie
Bart L. Wilder	Casper Classical Academy	Casper
Christi Wright	Big Horn High School	Big Horn

"The Arch Coal teacher recognition program is unique in Wyoming because it asks the public – students, parents, colleagues – to nominate teachers, and then the teachers' applications are judged by a panel of their peers," Schaefer explained.

"Our judges, all prior recipients of our Teacher Achievement Award, have a very difficult task determining the 10 winners. Judges then must determine the recipients of the Golden Apple award, teachers who also are extraordinarily talented and accomplished, but whose scores fell just short of being named a Teacher Achievement Award recipient," Schaefer said. "The Golden Apple recipients' scores were so close that in some instances less than a percentage point separated Teacher Achievement and Golden Apple award winners."

Arch Coal named the recipients of its Teacher Achievement Award on May 3. The 22 recipients of the Golden Apple award are eligible to compete in the next school year, as are all full-time classroom teachers in the state. "I believe these recipients of our Golden Apple award deserve to be nominated again," said Schaefer. "Clearly, they are outstanding professionals."

Arch Coal is supported by the Wyoming Department of Education, the Wyoming Education Association, Taco John's, Loaf'n Jug, and the Wyoming Library community in program promotion. This is the sixth year Arch Coal has made the awards in Wyoming.

Arch Coal is the nation's second largest coal producer and employs more than 1,000 people in Wyoming. Arch produces more than 90 million tons of clean-burning, low-sulfur coal annually at its Wyoming operations. The company's Black Thunder operation in Campbell County is one of the nation's largest and most efficient coal mines. Arch Coal is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: ACI) and maintains its corporate headquarters in St. Louis, Mo.