

10 Outstanding Wyoming Classroom Teachers Receive Arch Coal Achievement Awards

May 3, 2004 8:50 PM ET

CHEYENNE (May 3, 2004 - updated) - Ten outstanding Wyoming teachers today were named recipients of the 2004 Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Award. A large audience of teachers, students and guests attended the awards ceremony at Carey Junior High School.

Each recipient received an unrestricted cash award of \$2,500 from Arch Coal, which operates one of the nation's largest coal mines, Thunder Basin's Black Thunder mine, located near Wright.

Arch Coal President and Chief Executive Officer Steven F. Leer, accompanied by Gov. Dave Freudenthal, Dr. Cheryl Schroeder, educational consultant in the Wyoming Department of Education, representing State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Trent Blankenship, and Wyoming Education Association (WEA) President Gary McDowell presented awards to:

Jane Brutsman	Laramie County School District #1	Cheyenne
Terri L. Cooper	Newcastle Middle School	Newcastle
Paul M. Crips	Carey Junior High School	Cheyenne
Jacque Renee' Fernau	Powell High School	Powell
Carol Marie Garber	Sheridan High School	Sheridan
Kimberlee Ann Holland	Sage Valley Junior High School	Gillette
Alice L. King	Campbell County High School	Gillette
Barbara Maguire	Park Elementary School	Casper
Jerrid A. Washburn	Green River High School	Green River
Kathryn Ann Wise	Worland Middle School	Worland

"We count on teachers to challenge our children to learn and to achieve," Leer said. "In business, we expect our employees to be well educated, to be self reliant, and to be complex problem solvers. Excellent classroom teachers dare students to succeed, and these efforts are making a positive difference. Arch Coal is proud to recognize these teachers' contributions to Wyoming's future."

"It is extremely difficult to overestimate the impact a good teacher can have on a child's life," Gov. Freudenthal said. "I am delighted to honor the best of them, those teachers who have had profound positive influences over their students. As a parent myself, I know they deserve every bit of praise we can give them."

Blankenship agreed, "Research shows that effective teachers have a dramatic impact on student learning. We applaud the teachers being honored by Arch Coal for their outstanding dedication to Wyoming's students.

"We also commend Arch Coal for its continued support for Wyoming teachers and for being a strong business partner with Wyoming schools," said Blankenship.

"The WEA is proud to partner with Arch Coal in recognition of Wyoming's teachers," said McDowell. "Through this commitment to education, Arch Coal demonstrates the impact members of our business community can have on education. These winners are among thousands of excellent teachers in our state. For most Wyoming teachers, their reward is the impact they have on the lives of their students. This Arch Coal award illustrates the quality of Wyoming education and the staff that make it happen."

Greg Schaefer, Arch Coal's vice president of external affairs, western region, explained, "Our teacher awards program is designed to recognize classroom teaching excellence. This year's recipients prove that Wyoming has many superb teachers in all grades and all subjects. With hundreds of nominations from all over the state, this is truly a statewide award."

The Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Awards program has been honoring outstanding classroom teachers across Wyoming since 2001. Arch Coal has support from the Wyoming Department of Education, the Wyoming Education Association, Taco John's and Mini Mart in promoting the program.

Arch Coal is one of the nation's largest coal producers and employs approximately 650 people in Wyoming. Arch produces more than 65 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.

Information about each of the 10 recipients is posted on the Arch Coal Web site:
http://www.archcoal.com/community/teacherawards_2004.aspx.