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UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Fifth Grade Teacher from Davis County Named Utah Teacher of the Year

SALT LAKE CITY – Utah State Superintendent of Public Instruction Martell Menlove announced today that Foxboro Elementary School fifth grade teacher Allison P. Riddle has been named Utah's 2014 Teacher of the Year.

Riddle, of Centerville, was presented with a check for \$10,000 and will compete with her fellow teachers of the year in a national competition. Riddle will also receive a SMART Board interactive white board from SMART Board Technologies, a laptop computer from PC Laptops, and a \$250 Visa gift card from McDonald's. She will meet with fellow teachers of the year in Scottsdale, Ariz., and meet with the President in Washington and attend space camp in Alabama next summer.

Catherine Harrer Praggastis, an advancement via individual determination (AVID) teacher from Salt Lake City's East High school, was named first runner up and was presented with a check for \$5,000. Aimee Breinholt, a kindergarten teacher from the Jean Massieu School of the Deaf in Salt Lake City, was named second runner up and was presented with a check for \$3,000.

A committee with representatives from the Utah State Board of Education, Utah State

Office of Education, principals, superintendents, the Utah PTA, the Utah Education Association
and 2013 Utah Teacher of the Year Sara Hacken chose Riddle from among 23 nominations sent
in from local school districts and charter schools. All 23 teachers were honored at a banquet at
the Double Tree Hotel in Salt Lake City and presented with a gift from O.C. Tanner Company.

"In observing her classes as a parent volunteer, I was constantly amazed at how the class was always under control and it seem effortless – the students just wanted to be good students for Mrs. Riddle," wrote Jean M. Brown. "I have seen Mrs. Riddle take what is characterized as a problem student and completely turn them around to where they wanted to be better and learn."

"Allison has been instrumental in developing our school's Family Math Nights," wrote Foxboro Principal Kevin R. Prusse. "She has a wealth of math games using items that a family might have at home, such as dice and cards. She gives the other teachers the ideas to use with families."

Riddle, who teaches at North Salt Lake's Foxboro, replaces Hacken who teaches at Lakeridge Junior High in Orem.

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