



School Board Presents Golden Apple to Hodges
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Jane Graham, Staff Writer – The Southwest Times

PULASKI – The Pulaski County School Board has honored Debbie Hodges with its Golden Apple Award for her work with Standards of Learning testing in the county. Hodges is an instructional technology specialist in the school system’s Technology Department. She served as the project manager for SOL on-line Testing. The Golden Apple Award was presented for providing outstanding leadership in the implementation of SOL on-line testing at Pulaski county High School. Hodges was nominated for the Golden Apple by Vada L. Boyd, Dean of Students at PCHS. Dr. Donald L. Stowers, Superintendent of Schools, noted that Hodges “supplemented her already outstanding knowledge and skills in instructional use of technology by attending workshops and conferences related to on-line testing.” He said that in her planning she developed a list of tasks to be accomplished with specific personnel responsibilities and specific timelines to be met. According to Stowers, Hodges provided the appropriate staff and student training before the on-line testing began. Another highlight of her performance was her communication with staff involved in the project. She kept everyone informed with regular and detailed e-mail updates and telephone calls. She maintained the appropriate levels of security with the testing project, he said, following prescribed guidelines and requirements of the State Department of Education. Stowers said that Hodges maintained a positive attitude toward the project and communicated that attitude to other individuals involved. He said she showed dedication, working “endless” hours to make the project a success. “While Debbie has shown outstanding leadership in the SOL on-line testing program, she shows outstanding leadership in everything she does”, Stowers concluded. “Pulaski County Public Schools are fortunate to have Debbie as one of its employees.”