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Local Businessman donates to Aiken County Educators; hopes to inspire others

Local businessman, Mr. Robert Giancroce, co-owner of Mr. Central Air Conditioning (*Loretta Giancroce, is his wife and business partner*), is not only promoting superlative performance among our educators, he is also hoping to inspire others by donating \$2500 in gift cards to the Aiken County Public Schools.

Mr. Giancroce attended a recent board of education meeting and was perplexed by what he heard. "Hearing the frustration about furloughs, cuts, and not knowing what the future would bring seemed to trigger something in me. One of the board members mentioned getting the community involved in supporting our teachers." He was also bothered by teachers purchasing some of their needed school supplies. His immediate reaction was to purchase \$2500 in Wal-Mart gift cards for teachers.

He hopes to spark an interest in other area businesses. "I want to help them understand it is not just about the teachers, or the school board; it's about us as parents and citizens. We can have a greater impact on our upcoming generation. I want other businesses to donate what they can to help our teachers," states Mr. Giancroce.

School officials will use the gift cards to reward teachers with outstanding performance in and out of the classroom, and being a positive role model for not only students but their peers.

Five teachers will be awarded a \$50 gift card per month during the next ten months.

Mr. Giancroce surmised his concerns by stating, "Aiken County...We can't depend on Wall Street; we have to depend on Main Street. We can only rely on each other. Teachers are the biggest influence on children in America and we should take our hats off to them."