

Prestige Cleaners Presents Checks to Blount Schools

Prestige Cleaners announced the company has donated \$1000 each to the foundations of the Alcoa City Schools, Maryville City Schools and Blount County Schools as part of its Project Classroom program. Check presentations were made at Foothills Elementary School to the directors of the school systems and the executive directors of the foundations supporting the schools during a ceremony coordinated by the Blount Education Initiative.



Eddie Mannis, President Prestige Cleaners tries out the Promethean System at Foothills Elementary School under the guidance of second grade teacher Jan O'Connor. Mannis presented \$3000 to the Blount County education foundations as part of the company's Project Classroom program during a ceremony at the school.

According to Eddie Mannis, President of Prestige, “We at Prestige believe in giving back to the communities in which we have been successful. Project Classroom is one of two major philanthropies sponsored by our company in Knox, Anderson and Blount Counties. We launched this program to give schools additional funds to purchase items they may need that are not covered in the school systems' budget.”

The donations will go toward mini-grants awarded by the Alcoa and Blount County School Systems. Maryville City Schools will apply the money toward the purchase of a Promethean System for a classroom.



Eddie Mannis, President of Prestige Cleaners presents \$3000 to the Blount County education foundations as part of the company's Project Classroom program. Present at the ceremony are from l to r Mike Winston, Assistant Director Maryville City Schools; Alisa Teffeteller, Supervisor Blount County Schools; Sharon Hannum, President Alcoa City Schools Foundation; Eddie Mannis, President Prestige Cleaners; Amy Vagnier, Principal Foothills Elementary School; Barbara Jenkins, Executive Director Maryville City Schools Foundation; and Todd White, Chairman Maryville City Schools Foundation.

“We are very grateful for the generosity of Prestige Cleaners”, said Bonny Millard, Executive Director of the Blount Education Initiative. “This second year of support shows Prestige Cleaners' continued commitment to Blount County community schools and will help our schools with technology and other unmet needs. During these tough economic times, we appreciate the company's support.”

"The education of our young people is everyone's responsibility and there is not any greater cause businesses can support. This is the work force of the future." said Mannis.

Prestige is one of the largest independently owned drycleaners in the country. It opened in 1985 with three employees and one store. The company, headquartered in Powell now has over 140 employees, 9 stores in Knoxville and 1 in Oak Ridge. The company has established a residential/office pickup and delivery service in Blount County and has plans to open a Blount County store location in the future.

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