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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Interns Create Toolboxes for First-Year Teachers; Distribution This Afternoon at Centris

OMAHA – A group of first-year teachers in several Nebraska communities will start the 2023 school year with a boost, thanks to a community project led by a trio of interns at Centris Federal Credit Union.

Ben Puente, Abigail Vaughan and Caroline Worden — all summer interns at Centris — spearheaded the Teacher’s Toolbox Project, which culminates this afternoon, Aug. 9, with a reception at Centris headquarters, 13120 Pierce Street, at 2:30 p.m.

During the summer, the interns organized 25 teams of Centris employees across all branches and headquarters, and each team was responsible for putting together one “toolbox” for a first-year teacher. Each toolbox contains a three-shelf rolling cart that’s packed with school supplies and classroom decorations, including crayons, paper, expo markers, highlighters, posters and more. In addition to a set of base items supplied by Centris, the teams were also encouraged to personally donate items. Each teacher also will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card.

The teachers will pick up their toolboxes at Centris during today’s reception.

“Teachers play a huge role in helping children learn and preparing them to take the next step in their lives,” Puente said. “We wanted to give first-year teachers in the communities Centris serves a little extra help so they get off to a great start.”

Centris Federal Credit Union, founded in 1934, is one of Nebraska’s largest federally chartered community credit unions. Centris serves Douglas, Sarpy, Lincoln, McPherson and Pottawattamie counties, and has 15 offices located in Omaha, Grand Island, North Platte and Tryon, Neb., and Council Bluffs, Iowa. Centris has been voted Omaha Magazine’s Best Credit Union for 14 consecutive years. For more information, visit www.centrisfcu.org.