



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Lots searches for 100 educators to assist with Teacher Appreciation event

COLUMBUS, OH (May 13, 2008) — Big Lots (NYSE:BIG) is looking for teachers to volunteer their time and expertise to assist shoppers on Big Lots Teacher Appreciation Day, August 2, 2008. Selected participants will help educate Big Lots customers and colleagues on the art of back-to-school bargain shopping.

“This is a great opportunity for teachers to put their expertise into action,” said Rob Claxton, Senior Vice President of Marketing. “The volunteers will help back-to-school shoppers and fellow teachers get the most for their money by choosing brand-name school supplies and comparable alternatives.”

Up to 100 teacher volunteers will be selected. Teachers who wish to volunteer may apply through June 30 by visiting www.lots2give.com and selecting *Be a Volunteer*. There will be one teacher volunteer per participating store. Potential volunteers will be contacted by email on or before July 14, 2008.

On Big Lots Teacher Appreciation Day, educators receive special discounts on their purchases.

About Big Lots

Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Big Lots (NYSE: BIG) is a Fortune 500 company with more than 1,300 stores in 47 states. As the nation’s largest broadline closeout retailer, Big Lots offers consumers a wide range of bargain-priced merchandise, including brand-name closeouts, seasonal products, consumables, furniture, housewares, toys, and gifts. For more information, visit www.biglots.com.