



Distinguished Alumni Awards Program

Guidelines and Procedures

Purpose of the Distinguished Alumni Awards Program

To recognize and honor all former graduates of the Rockdale Independent School District (Rockdale High School & Aycock High School) whose achievements, strengths of character and citizenship serve as models to inspire and challenge today's students.

Goal 1: To honor Rockdale ISD (Rockdale High School/Aycock High School) graduates who have distinguished themselves, and in doing so, brought honor and/or positive recognition to our school district and community.

Goal 2: To bring positive attention and publicity to the quality of Rockdale ISD by highlighting successful graduates.

Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee

The Awards Committee shall be a standing committee of nine (9) members.

1. Eight (8) Rockdale High School/Aycock High School graduates or former RISD staff
2. One (1) Board of Trustees member

Each committee member shall serve for a four (4) year term (two award periods), with terms running from the conclusion of one Awards Ceremony through the implementation of the next Award Ceremony. Four of the eight graduates/staff members shall rotate off every other year in odd-numbered years. The RISD Board of Trustees will appoint a trustee, as needed. The Rockdale ISD Distinguished Alumni Committee shall name the new committee members. Past committee members must be off the committee for two years before re-appointment.

The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Rockdale High School Principal shall serve as ex-officio members of the Committee, without voting rights. The Committee with majority rule will appoint replacements for vacant unexpired terms. The Rockdale ISD Central Administration Office shall maintain all records or files and act as archivist for the Awards Program.

Nominating Procedures

1. Any person may submit a nomination for consideration to the Awards Committee.
2. Submittal of the completed nomination form provided by the Awards Committee is required.
3. Nominations will be accepted until 4:00 PM on August 31st, in odd-numbered years.

Nomination forms are available online at www.rockdaleisd.net > Community > Alumni, or may be picked up at the Rockdale ISD Administration Building at 520 W Davilla, Rockdale, Texas 76567 or Rockdale High School at 500 Childress, Rockdale, Texas 76567. Forms may also be requested by emailing alumni@rockdaleisd.net.

The committee is not responsible for nominations lost in the mail, delivered to the wrong location, not legible, missing pertinent information, or those received after the nominating deadline.

Eligibility of Awards

1. The Distinguished Alumni Award shall be open to any graduate from Rockdale High School or Aycock High School and is at least thirty-five (35) years of age at the time of nomination. Awards for alumni will be given for achievement in various fields of service including, but not limited to: fine arts, performing arts, business, education, entertainment, law, medicine, military, philanthropy, politics, public service, religion, scholarship and science.
2. Awards may be given posthumously and, in such instances, there shall be no age requirement.



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3. No current member of the Awards Committee shall be eligible for an Award.
4. Current employees, or present Board Members of the district, are not eligible for consideration. Former students, teachers, administrators and trustees who are RISD graduates are eligible, but all employees do not become eligible until they are former employees.

Selection Procedure

1. The Awards Committee shall receive and review each nomination. The Awards Committee will contact the nominee for more information, if needed, before the selection meeting. The Awards Committee shall vote to select Award Honorees. A nominee must receive six (6) out of nine (9) votes to be awarded. Proxies are permitted.
2. In each year, no more than six (6) awards can be given.
3. The Awards Committee reserves the right to reject any or all nominations.
4. Individuals nominated for an award, and not chosen, shall remain nominees for two (2) additional award periods; after which, the nomination may be re-submitted for consideration.

Formal Notification and Receipt of an Award

1. Following the Awards Committee balloting, each Award Honoree shall receive a letter signed by the Superintendent of Schools, informing the Honoree of his or her election. Each Award Honoree shall submit the following: a current 5x7 photograph (not to be returned), a brief personal statement/acceptance, and a condensed version of career highlights for publication.
2. The award must be accepted in person or as approved by the Awards Committee. Posthumous Awards shall be accepted by a member of the designee's immediate family or by a person deemed acceptable to the Awards Committee.

Distinguished Alumni Awards Reception and Recognition

Recognitions will be made during the Homecoming football game of odd-numbered years, beginning in 2019. A special insert with honorees will accompany the football game program.

1. Honorees shall be announced at a place and time to be scheduled biennially. They will be guests of honor at the Distinguished Alumni Reception.
2. The form of the award shall be determined by the Awards Committee.

Permanent Recognition for Distinguished Alumni

1. Honorees' photographs, brief biography and statement, will be permanently displayed at Rockdale High School.