

# San Antonio Academy Military Program Guide

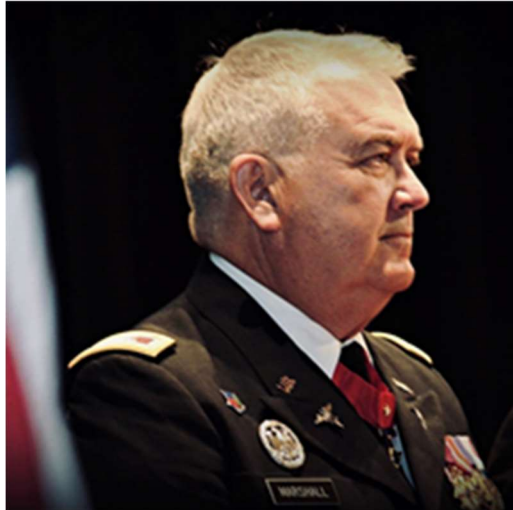


Leadership Opportunities Begin Here!

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# Welcome!



Dear Parents,  
On behalf of the faculty and staff of San Antonio Academy, welcome to the Wildcat family and our Military Program. The Military Program is designed to enhance the school's rigorous educational program with a focus on developing young leaders of character committed to the school's values of "Being Honest, Being Kind, Being the Best You Can Be."

San Antonio Academy is an exceptional all boys private school steeped in tradition that carries its legacy through the lives of our alumni and their contributions to their communities and society as a whole.

While attending The Academy, students are surrounded by a genuinely caring cadre of teachers, coaches and staff dedicated to their individual success, ready and willing to work through challenges to see their potential realized. This approach to development results in a young man with a strong work ethic, sound morals and an appetite for lifelong learning.

At The Academy your son will receive a top-tier education recognized for excellence, while learning how to be a leader. At the heart of everything we do, the focus is to develop character and the moral-ethical attributes essential to good leadership, all of which is woven into every aspect of The Academy experience.

Since our founding in 1886, Academy graduates have served our communities and nation with honor and distinction as doctors, lawyers, businessmen, entrepreneurs, military officers, Members of Congress, astronauts, and captains of industry. Many have been trailblazers, making history and paving the way for future generations of leaders of character. Soon, and before you are ready, your son will join the ranks of the prestigious Academy Alumni Association and continue The Academy's great tradition of leadership and service.

Your sons are at The Academy during a very challenging period in our history — one that will test our mettle, resolve, and resiliency as a community and a people. For this school year, those qualities will be put to the test as your sons undergo a challenging education curriculum and leader development experience.

We are privileged to work with your sons as they develop and strengthen the skills that are vital for their long-term success. Thank you for your support and Go Cats Go!

COL Steve Marshall  
US Army (Retired)  
Commandant



## Dedication

This guide is dedicated to San Antonio Academy alumni Louis John Jordan (January 30, 1890 – March 5, 1918). Jordan graduated from The Academy and played football for the University of Texas from 1911 to 1915. He was the first Texas Longhorns player to be selected as an All-American. After college Jordan returned to SAA to teach and coach. At the onset of WWI he took a commission as an Army Officer and was killed by a German artillery barrage while serving in France, making him the first Texas officer to make the ultimate sacrifice.

Today, you can visit the Louis Jordan Flagpole at Texas' Royal-Memorial Stadium, along with his diary in which he wrote **"Do the best you can... and then keep on smiling,"** just days before a German artillery shell landed in the opening of his dugout. He was among the first four individuals, and the first athlete, inducted into the Longhorn Hall of Honor. He was also selected as the honorary captain for the all-time University of Texas football team in 2009.

"One of the most popular students at The University of Texas from 1911 through 1915 was a young man of German heritage from Fredericksburg, Texas, named L.J. 'Louis' Jordan. Jordan was like everybody's big brother. He was a round-faced blond who stood over 6 feet tall and weighed 205 pounds -- that was big for the time ... Jordan, in fact, was so gentle by nature he had to be coaxed to play football. But when he did, he became the greatest lineman, both offensively and defensively, of his era." - Bill Little, UT Football Historian.

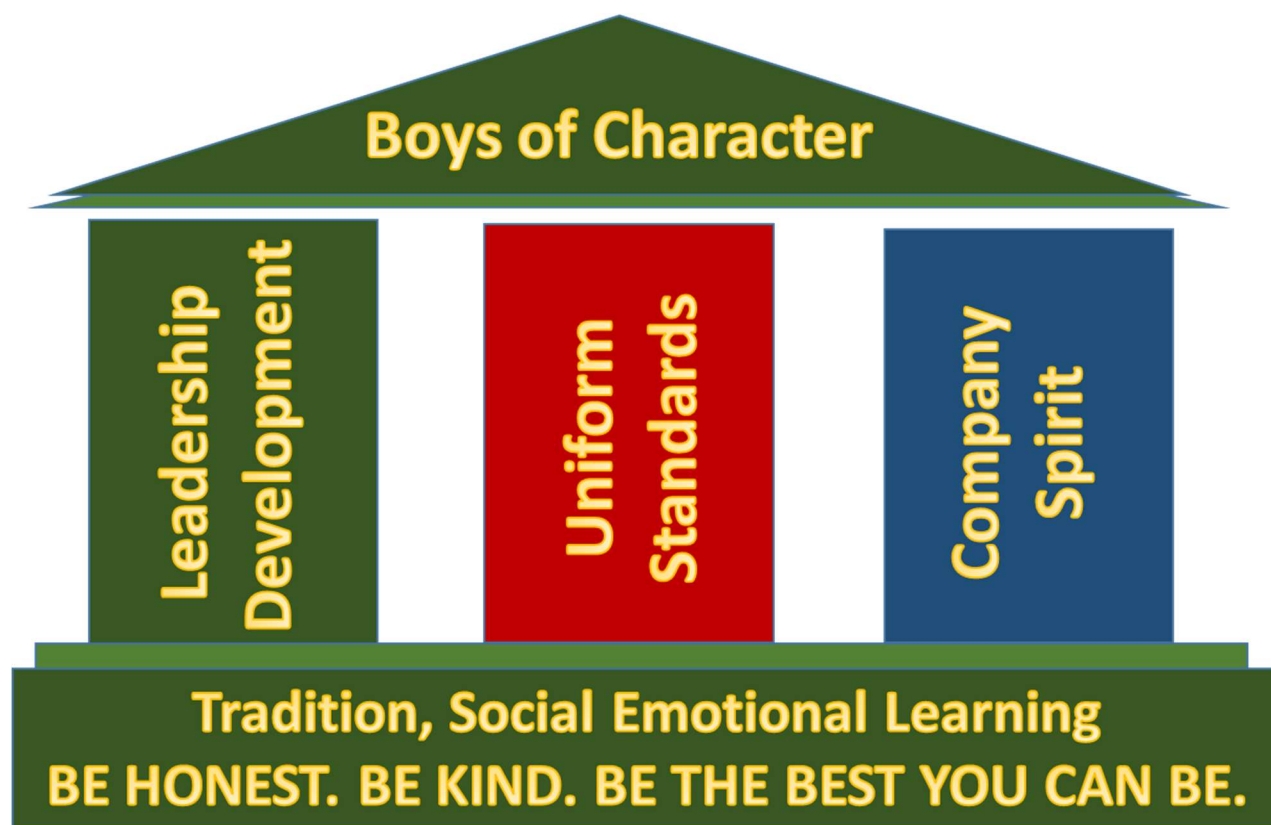
Between 1914 and 1918, sixty-six Academy graduates held commissions in the Army or Navy in WWI. Louis Jordan's death, coupled with the high number of Academy veterans, inspired Superintendent W. W. Bondurant to create the military program at San Antonio Academy in the fall of 1919.



## Overview

**Purpose:** The Academy's military program promotes a variety of life skills: planning, following directions, working as a team, setting goals, and overcoming obstacles. Through this unique and tradition rich program SAA boys have learned to become responsible, self-confident young men. The military program teaches leadership skills, critical thinking skills, and promotes attention to detail. Students learn how to think as a leader, solve problems, learn to delegate, and build the team. They learn to be leaders of honor and integrity.

1. **Mission:** The mission of the Military Program is to "Develop boys of character, who are critical thinkers and committed to living the values of The Academy." To meet this mission our program rests on three pillars using a military model: Leadership Development, Uniform Standards, and Company Spirit.



2. **The Military Model:** For over 100 years the fundamental premise at The Academy is to use a military model within an exceptional educational environment. The military model uses structure, routine, accountability, leadership, teamwork, decision making and personal pride as vehicles to holistically develop young boys to meet their fullest potential. The pillars are fully integrated into a challenging and purposeful curriculum. When our students graduate, they are not only prepared for the rigors of High School but prepared to face life's journey with determination, perseverance, and resolve.

The military model defines roles and responsibilities, provides leadership opportunities, and encourages decision-making by students. The military model also provides a clear set of rewards

for exceptional performance and consequences when standards are not met. The military model is an effective way to provide a clear path to success. A student can reach their full potential by developing their leadership skills, meeting and exceeding standards, and being challenged to do their best both in and outside the classroom.

3. **Leadership Development:** Leader development and leadership opportunities are predominant at The Academy. It begins in the morning with the “Line Up”, flag raising, and chapel. On the drill field upper students participate in a leadership lab that allows them to engage practical applications while younger students learn to follow and build the team. All boys set the example in the classroom and in the dining room where upper boys are responsible for the conduct of family dining and younger boys all have a role to play. Boys in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> grade have the opportunity to engage in Safety Patrol and Safety Escort. 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders serve as role models to their “buddies”, and 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders are placed in key positions of responsibility.
  - **Pre-K - 2nd Grade:** Students in Pre-K - 2nd grade do not formally participate in the military program. They do, however, grow into the structure, community, and peer leadership of this school-wide program through regular activities, such as wearing a modified school uniform, being recognized for positive achievements, and partnering with a “buddy” student.
  - **3rd - 8th Grade:** Students in 3rd - 8th grade are full members of our military program. They participate in drill activities, earn rewards and consequences based on the merit/demerit system, and receive promotions in rank and responsibility. Recognizing the needs and abilities of younger students, elementary school students focus on learning basic drill movements, maintaining a proper uniform, and following orders. These basic skills lay a foundation for self-confidence and personal responsibility.
4. **Uniform Standards:** The school uniform is a symbol of honor and tradition, of esprit de corps and morale, and of personal excellence and pride. The Academy has a set of standards for the school uniform and appearance where discipline is judged. Therefore, it is important for all students to maintain a high standard of dress and personal appearance. Elements of this standard are neatness, cleanliness, safety, uniformity, and school image. Appearance in uniform is an important part of the school image. The image of a disciplined and committed student represents confidence that they live by a common standard and respond to order and discipline.
5. **Company Spirit:** We instill a sense of pride, school spirit, esprit de corps, and team work by using various competitive modes. Each boy is assigned to one of six companies at The Academy and we test them, not only individually, but also by company. Boys and their companies receive competitive scores on inspections, drill competitions, academics, and the “Company Challenge”. These are designed to test the capabilities of both leadership and followership, while exercising key Social Emotional Learning competency skills.

## Training

**General:** The Academy's military program promotes a variety of life skills: planning, following directions, working as a team, setting goals, and overcoming obstacles. Through this unique and traditional program SAA boys learn to become responsible, self-confident young men. Students learn how to think as a leader, solve problems, learn to delegate, and build the team.

Starting with the idea of "Followership", the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students begin their journey by staff instruction and watching upper classmates who mentor them in uniform standards, marching techniques, and behavior. In the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, students assist 3<sup>rd</sup> graders with the things they learned the previous year. In the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students begin to take more of a "Leadership" role by assisting squad leaders during drill, inspections, challenges and mentoring "Buddies" in the primary grades. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students continue to reinforce their leadership skills and take on select leadership roles as 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeants, Squad Leaders, and Guidon bearers.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, students assume leadership of the Wildcat Battalion and the Battalion Council. 8<sup>th</sup> graders are in charge of Companies, Color Guard, and Drum Corps.

- EDGE Method of Training:** At The Academy the Military Staff uses the EDGE method of training. It is a simple strategy used to structure our training to ensure what is taught actually gets learned. It is our goal to have the program led by boys and not by adults. As soon as possible in the school year we turn over training to key 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade leaders who then use the EDGE method to train younger students. EDGE stands for:
  - Explain – talk about what we will be doing and why it's important.
  - Demonstrate – Next, show what the skill looks like when it's done correctly; we talk about what they are doing as they go so they understand the actions. When we are done with this step, they will know what "right looks like"
  - Guide – Now it's their turn. We give them the tools, and let them try. If needed we talk them through the process step by step so they understand. This phase typically takes the most time. Practice makes perfect.
  - Enable – In the final step, they do it on their own. If they can properly demonstrate the skill themselves, then they have effectively learned the skill. The best training ends with the learner showing off his new ability.
- Social, Emotional Learning (SEL):** The military program supports the development of SEL core competencies by focusing first on the young mind and the ideas of "Followership". As boys grow and mature the focus shifts to leadership skills and developing critical thinking skills. SEL competencies include:
  - Self-Awareness: Understanding your emotions and thoughts and how they influence your behavior. Skills include: identifying emotions, self-perception, recognizing strengths, self-confidence, and self-efficacy. Self-efficacy is the belief in your ability to succeed in specific situations or accomplishment of a task.
  - Self-Management: The ability to regulate your emotions and behaviors in different situations and to set and work toward goals. Skills include: executive function and self-regulation, stress-management, and self-discipline. Executive function and self-regulation are the mental processes that enable us to plan, focus attention, remember

instructions, and juggle multiple tasks successfully. Our brains need this skill set to filter distractions, prioritize tasks, set and achieve goals, and control impulses.

- **Social Awareness:** The ability to take the perspective of and empathize with others. Skills include: empathy, appreciating differences, and respect.
- **Relationship Skills:** The ability to establish and maintain healthy and meaningful relationships with others. Skills include: communicating clearly, listening, cooperation, resisting negative pressure, resolving conflicts, and supporting one another.
- **Responsible Decision-Making:** The ability to make positive choices and take responsibility for positive and negative outcomes. Skills include: identifying problems, analyzing situations, solving problems, and reflection.

3. **Training Schedule:** Each year the Commandant publishes a Training Schedule that is made available to teachers, students, and families. It will note drill dates, parades, leadership retreats, special events, and Battalion Council meetings. Example below.

SAA Military Program		Inspections	Parades	Company Challenge	Leader/Staff Meetings	Special Events			
<b>Training Schedule, 2019-2020 (Dates and Events Subject to Change)</b>									
Month	Date	Day	Units	Time	Place	Event	Uniform	Trainers	Notes
September	23	Monday	All	0830-0900	Frost Field	Drum Corps Tryouts, Color Guard Tryouts, 8 & 7 Ldr Rotations, Student led Drill	Khaki w/T-Shirt	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson, Dr. Duggan	Leadership Rotations for 8th, Dr. Duggan primary instructor for Drum Corps Tryouts, Dr. Atkerson primary instructor for Color Guard Tryouts. Final Tryouts for both Drum Corps and Color Guard
	25	Wednesday	B & E (-8)	0830-0900	Frost Field	Organization, Inspection, Student led Drill Instruction	Khaki w/T-Shirt	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson	
	30	Monday	All	0830-0900	Frost Field	Parade Practice	Full Khaki	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson, Dr. Duggan	8th Grade leadership rotation
October	2	Wednesday	C & F (-8)	0830-0900	Frost Field	Organization, Inspection, Student led Drill Instruction	Full Khaki	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson	
	4	Friday	All	1409-1515	Frost Field	Inspection	Drill Blue w/Cap	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson, Gary Marvin	All Inspections will be on Frost Field, weather permitting
	7	Monday	All	0830-0900	Frost Field	Parade Practice	Full Khaki	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson, Dr. Duggan	Stabilize 8th Grade rotations for Alumni Day Parade
	11	Friday	All	1409-1515	Frost Field	Company Challenge	Full Khaki	COL Marshall, Dr. Atkerson, Select Staff	Tug of War, Water Bucket Relay, 40 yard Dash
	16	Wednesday	All	0830-0900	Frost Field	Parade Practice	Full Khaki	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson, Dr. Duggan	Stabilize 8th Grade rotations for Alumni Day Parade
	18	Friday	All	0840-0900	Frost Field	Alumni Day Parade	Drill Blue w/Cap	COL Marshall, COL Lynch, Dr. Atkerson, Dr. Duggan	Stabilize 8th Grade rotations for Alumni Day Parade Form on the Field

4. **Leader Board:** The leader board is published and updated throughout the year. The intent of the board is to provide feedback to the boys and their companies and instill pride and a spirit of competition. Example below.

## Leader Board

Current Standings, 9 Dec 19

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Overall	F	C	E	D	A	B
Inspections	E	F	C	A	D	B
Company Challenge <small>Includes Friday PE Scores</small>	D	F	C	E	A	B
Academic	F	C	E	D	B	A
Drill Competition	F	C	D	E	B	A

5. **Inspections and Daily Standard:** Academy students are expected to meet uniform, hair, and grooming standards each school day. Individual scores for inspections and daily wear are reflected in the company's overall inspection score with the lead company recognized at the end of the year.
  - Formal inspections are conducted on a regular basis, typically once a month in either the Drill Blue or Dress Blue uniform.
  - Uniform, hair, and grooming standards are inspected daily. This occurs informally at line-up, on the drill field, in class, and while around campus by the military staff, teachers, administration, and student leadership. Students are ALWAYS accountable for maintaining and wearing the uniform correctly.
  - Students are inspected for: Uniform is clean and wrinkle free; rank, name plate, tabs and cords are worn properly; all awards and decorations are present, serviceable and worn properly on the Drill and Dress Blue uniform; in compliance with jewelry standards; hair is in compliance with standards; shoes are clean, shined, and laced; socks are correct and without holes; belt and buckle is clean and gig line is straight.
6. **Company Challenge:** Students participate in the Company Challenge both individually and as a company team. Individual challenges are conducted during P.E. Team challenges are conducted three times a year, as a mini field day, in the build up to Field Day. Scores from each, individual and team, are reflected in the company's overall challenge score.
7. **Academic Scores:** Student academic standings are reflected in the company's overall score with the lead company recognized at graduation.
8. **Drill Competition:** Drill competitions at the Platoon and Company level are held throughout the year. Scores from these are reflected in company's overall score with the lead company recognized at graduation.
9. **Leadership Retreats:** Retreats are conducted throughout the school year for 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Retreats provide an opportunity for boys to gain confidence and for the class to build the team and fostering esprit de corps while learning new leader skills.

## Battalion Organization

The Wildcat Battalion is organized into 6 Companies, along with a Battalion Staff Group, Color Guard, and Drum Corps.

1. Companies are organized with 2 Platoons of 2 Squads each (4 Squads to a Company). Each Company and Platoon is led by an 8<sup>th</sup> grader along with an Executive Officer. 7<sup>th</sup> graders fill the First Sergeant, Squad Leader, and Guideon leadership positions.
2. The Color Guard and Drum Corps are led by an 8th grader along with an Executive Officer and a 7th grade First Sergeant.
3. The Battalion Staff Group is led by the Battalion Commander. He will have a staff that is typically made up of an Executive Officer, Adjutant, Operations Officer, and Logistic Officer.

Figure 1. Company Organization

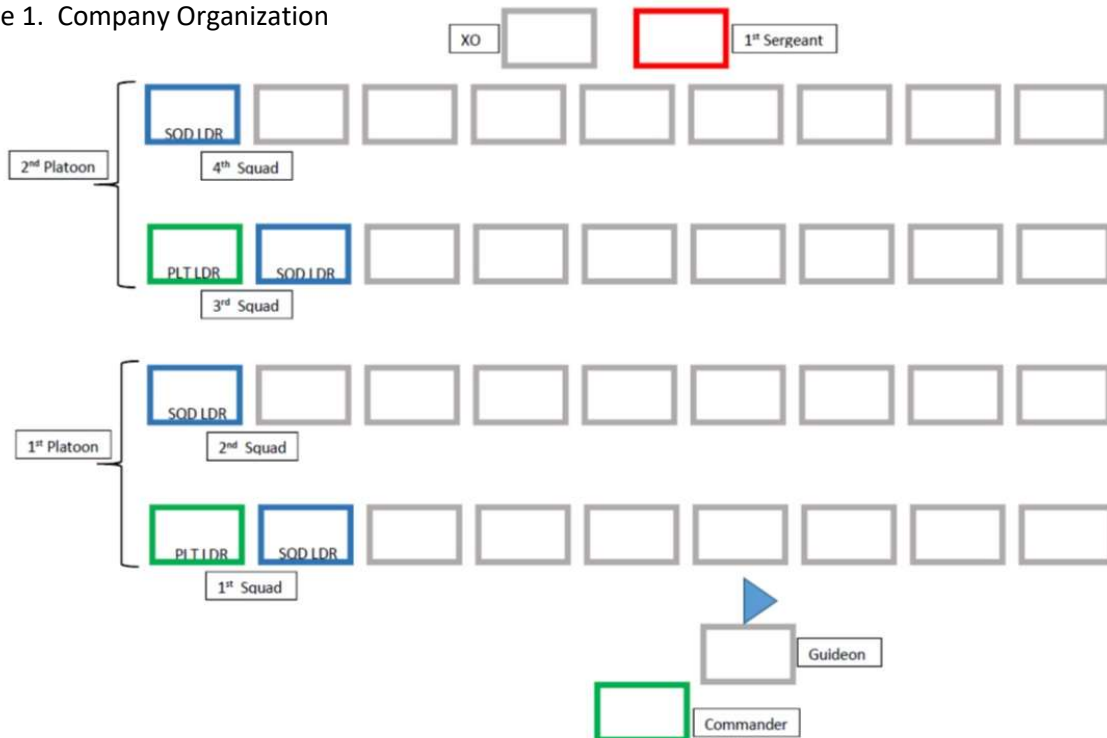
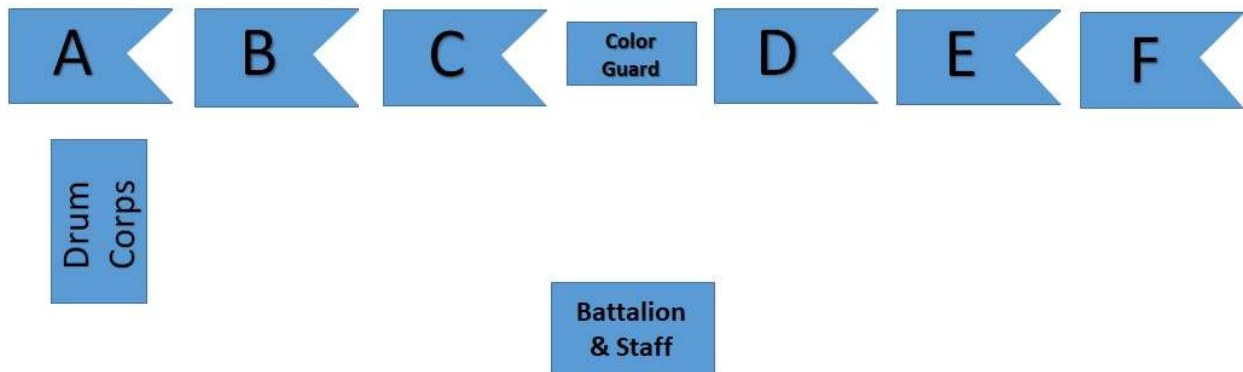


Figure 2. Wildcat Battalion



## Leadership Positions

**General:** We expect every boy to embrace the idea of leadership and character. The Academy offers multiple roads to experience leadership opportunities. On the drill field, at line-up and chapel, in the classroom, the dining hall, or the athletic field student have the opportunity exercise the ideas of “Followership” and “Leadership”. General leadership opportunities include:

- Safety Patrol: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Safety Escort: 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Buddy Mentors: 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Dining Room Table Leaders: 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Battalion Council (Commanders & Staff): 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (Key Leaders)

1. **Safety Patrol and Safety Escorts:** The Safety Patrol and Escort programs are staffed by boy volunteers who help to direct younger students at morning drop off. The program allows boys the opportunity to demonstrate and develop their leadership abilities. As school-age leaders, patrol members teach other students about safety on a peer-to-peer basis. They also serve as models for younger children, who look up to them.
  - Safety Patrol members come from the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades and serve for one day week at scheduled times throughout the year. Volunteers in good standing are recognized at the end of the school year with a medal.
  - Safety Escort member come from the 6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> grade and serve for one day week for a semester. Escort volunteers are recognized with a blue & gold shoulder cord and at the end of the school year with a medal.
2. **Buddy Mentor Program:** Starting in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade the Buddy Program matches primary students with upper school mentors. The mentor team develops a bond with upper students providing support, guidance, and opportunities to help their primary student succeed and meet their goals. The essential components include creating caring, empathetic, consistent, and long-lasting relationships, often with the combination of role modeling, teaching, and advising. Buddies and mentors are typically assigned by lunch table association and may change each semester.
3. **Battalion Council:** Key 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are members of the Battalion Council. Functioning much like a student council, the Battalion Council works together to provide a means for student expression and assistance in school affairs and activities. It provides experience in leadership and encourage student, faculty, and community interaction.
4. **Select Leadership Position:** Starting in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and into the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, boys will be considered for select leadership positions. These include Commanders, Executive Officers, Platoon Leaders, Battalion Staff, First Sergeants, and Platoon Sergeants. The selection process is competitive. Each fall, the Commandant will form a committee to complete a holistic review of each 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Variables such as teacher ranking, peer ranking, uniform and inspections, school spirit, grades, conduct, and in school and out of school activities will be reviewed. From these variables the committee will form an Order of Merit List (OML) with recommendations for positions and endorsement by the committee chair. The OML will then go

to the Head of School for review and approval. This process is typically completed by the end of October with announcements made after approval. Select leadership positions include:

a. Battalion Commander (BC)

- Qualifications: 8<sup>th</sup> Grader, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School
- Reports to: Commandant
- Trained by: Commandant and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Responsible for all battalion activities
  - Leads the Battalion Council. Supervises, provides guidance and direction for Commanders and Battalion Staff Officers in ensuring all activities and training are planned, coordinated and executed efficiently
  - Builds an effective chain of command and develops a positive command climate
  - Continually looks for ways to improve the Battalion and School
  - Ensures compliance with policies and procedures of the program
  - Creates suspense dates to accomplish Battalion missions and enforce standards
  - Serves as a link between all students and the Head of School
  - Advises the Commandant concerning all student matters
  - Provides guidance and feedback to Commanders and Battalion Staff

b. Deputy Battalion Commander (DBC)

- Qualifications: 8<sup>th</sup> Grader, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School
- Reports to: Battalion Commander
- Trained by: Battalion Commander, Commandant, and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Second in command; assumes command and commander responsibilities in the Battalion Commander's absence
  - Serves as the Chief of Staff
    - Responsible to ensure all staff sections are prepared for battalion meetings
    - Ensures staff suspense dates are met and remains knowledgeable of the current status of staff actions
    - Supervises and coordinates the efforts of the battalion staff in planning, coordination, and execution of Battalion events
  - Free the commander from routine details and passes pertinent data, information and insight from the staff to the commander and from the commander to the staff
  - Liaisons with the SAA Parents Club
  - Conducts the Battalion Staff Council
  - Sits on the Battalion Commander Council

c. Battalion Staff

- Qualifications: 8th Grader, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School
- Reports to: Battalion Deputy Commander
- Trained by: DBC, Commandant, and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Reports primarily to the DBC
  - Responsible for administrative and logistic duties
  - Plans, organizes, and supervises the execution of battalion training and events
  - Responsible for assisting with social events
  - Receives operational control of any special project committees as directed by the commander
  - Sit on the Battalion Staff Council

d. Company Commander (CO)

- Qualifications: 8th Grader, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School
- Reports to: Battalion Commander
- Trained by: Battalion Commander, Commandant, and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Leads by example
  - Builds a positive command climate
  - Evaluates the performance of students in the company.
  - Responsible for everything that the company does or fails to do.
  - Provides input to battalion planning.
  - Develops company plans IAW Battalion or school directives.
  - Ensures students are adequately prepared to execute their responsibilities, especially during drill and parades
  - Sit on the Battalion Commander Council

e. Company Executive Officer (XO)

- Qualifications: 8th Grader, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School
- Reports to: Company Commander
- Trained by: Company Commander, Commandant and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Second in command; assumes command and commander responsibilities in the CO's absence
  - Supervises and coordinates the efforts of the company in planning, coordination and execution of company events
  - Remains knowledgeable of company competitive standings
  - Responsible for the safety and risk assessment of all company events
  - Performs all other duties as assigned by the Company Commander

f. Platoon Leaders & Platoon Sergeant (PL & SPL)

- Qualifications: Platoon Leaders are 8<sup>th</sup> graders and Platoon Sergeants are 7<sup>th</sup> graders, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School.

- Reports to: Company Commander
- Trained by: Company Commander, Commandant and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Leads by example
  - Responsible for all platoon activities
  - Sets the standard and direction of the platoon
  - Communicates company commander's intent and empowers their platoons to act appropriately to accomplish the mission
  - Enforce standards
  - Serves as a link between their platoons and the Company Commander and First Sergeants
  - Disseminates information from the company chain of command and issues orders
  - Responsible for the training and personal development of the platoon members
  - Helps to develop company spirit
  - Wears the daily uniform correctly to school and other troop activities
  - Lives by the school motto and shows School Spirit

g. Company First Sergeants (1SGT)

- Qualifications: 7th Grader, Recommended by Committee Review, Appointed by Head of School
- Reports to: Company Commander
- Trained by: Company Commander, XO, Commandant and adult Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Sets the example
  - Assist the CO in planning, leading meetings and activities
  - Helps the CO in keeping the company informed
  - Assists the CO in preparing the company to take part in all activities
  - Assist the commander and XO in discipline
  - Takes charge of the company in the absence of 8th grade leadership
  - Represents the company at the commanders meetings in the absence of the Company Leadership
  - Works with the other leaders to make the company run well

h. Squad Leaders

- Qualifications: 7th Grader, Recommended by the Company Commander
- Reports to: Platoon Leaders
- Trained by: Platoon Leaders
- Duties:
  - Sets the example for younger students
  - Responsible for all squad activities
  - Sets the standard and direction of the squad
  - Communicates the platoon leader's intent and empowers squad members to act appropriately to accomplish the mission
  - Enforce standards
  - Serves as a link between the younger student and the platoon leadership

- Disseminates information from the platoon chain of command and issues orders
- Responsible for personnel accountability, uniform, equipment, training, and preparation for training at squad level

i. Guideon Bearer

- Qualifications: 7<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> Grader, Selected by the Company
- Reports to: Company Commander
- Trained by: Executive Officer and Military Staff
- Duties:
  - Sets the example for the company
  - Maintains the company guideon










## Rank

**General:** Rank is conferred to boys as they matriculate through the grades. All grades will receive rank appropriate to their grade after completion of self-study via Google Classroom (see Appendix A. Google Classroom Self-Study Matrix). The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will initially receive a base rank appropriate to their grade but will be advanced in rank dependent upon selection to leadership positions. Key leadership positions are also noted by the addition of leadership tabs.

Please note that 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders may lose their leadership positions and/or be reduced in rank if they score failing grades or incur serious disciplinary infractions.













### Rank and Tabs: 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>



 CADET PVT	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	 CADET SSG	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	 CADET MSG	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Platoon SGT	
 CADET CPL	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade					
 CADET SGT	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	 CADET SFC	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	 CADET 1SG	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade 1 <sup>st</sup> SGT	

### Rank and Tabs: 8<sup>th</sup>



 CADET LTC	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bn Cdr		 CADET MAJ	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bn Deputy Cdr		 CADET CPT	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bn Staff	 CADET 1LT	
 CADET MAJ	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Company Cdr		 CADET CPT	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Company XO	 CADET 1LT	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Platoon Ldr		 CADET 2LT	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Base Rank

## Uniform Standards

**General:** Upper school students have 5 uniforms they wear through the year. They are the Khaki Uniform, P.E. Uniform, Camo Uniform, Drill Blue Uniform, and the Dress Blue Uniform. In general:

- Uniforms will be neat, clean, with shirts tucked and worn to standards.
- Uniform accessories will be in their correct position.
- Gig line will be straight. (see image)
- Shoes will be clean, laces tied, free of worn areas, and regularly polished.
- Hair will be clean, combed, and worn to standards.
- Jewelry is not authorized other than the school ring. This includes other rings, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and other forms of jewelry.
- Watches may be worn, as long as they are analog or simple digital watches. Watches considered "Smart Watches" are not authorized.

1. **The Uniform Store:** Uniforms and accessories may be purchased at The Academy's Uniform Store. See <https://www.sa-academy.org/families/uniform-store> Phone number is 210-733-7331, ext. 227

2. **Khaki Uniform:** The Khaki Uniform is worn daily. It consists of:

- Short-sleeved, khaki shirt with:
  - Name tag on flap of right shirt pocket (centered, with top edge aligned with inside top seam, and shirt material smooth and flat beneath)
  - Flat black rank insignia are worn on the left and right collars
- Khaki trousers
- Academy white t-shirt
- Black web belt with brass buckle (white belt for eighth grade)
- All Black, all leather upper, athletic shoes (New Balance or Nike) or black Oxfords
- Black crew socks without logos (no ankle length or lo-cut socks)
- Leadership tabs (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade if assigned)



### SAN ANTONIO ACADEMY | Uniform Guidelines: Daily Khaki

RIGHT SHOULDER CORD 8th grade wears the gold cord.

BUTTONS All buttons, except the top collar button, are fastened.

NAME TAG Centered on right pocket flap, top of name tag even with the stitch line.

RANKS Ends of chevron(s), discs, or diamonds just touching stitch line, centered on an imaginary line bisecting the collar point.



**Gig Line**

**3. P.E. Uniform:** The P.E. uniform consist of:

- Blue P.E. t-shirt
- Blue P.E. shorts
- Black or white crew socks with no logo\*. Anklet or quarter socks are not authorized. (\*SAA branded socks may be worn)
- Athletic shoes
- Note: Students name, 1<sup>st</sup> initial and last name, should show on the shirt and shorts.



**4. Camo Uniform:** The Camo uniform is worn on selected days.

- Academy white t-shirt or other SAA sponsored shirt (i.e. Fall Family Fair)
- Academy camo pants
- Black web belt with brass buckle (white belt for eighth grade cadets)
- Black crew socks without logos (no ankle length or lo-cut socks)
- Athletic shoes

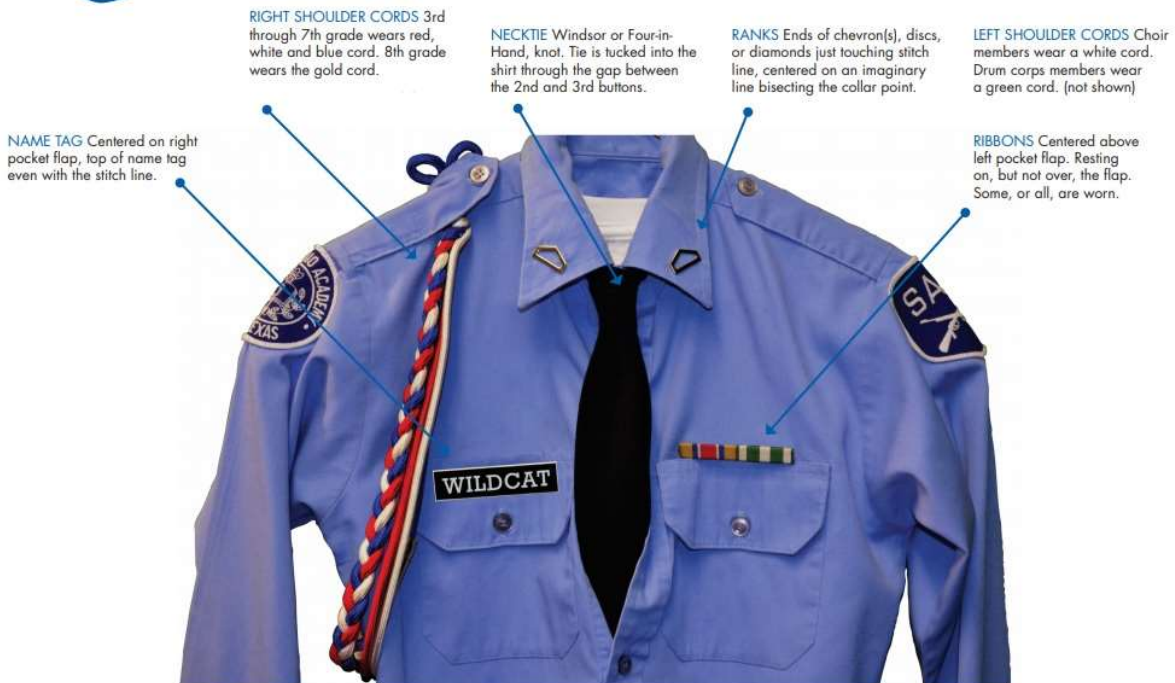


5. **Drill Blue Uniform:** The Drill Blue uniform is worn on select days.

- Long-sleeved, Academy Drill Blue shirt with:
  - Name tag on flap of right shirt pocket (centered, with top edge aligned with inside top seam, and shirt material smooth and flat beneath)
  - Polished brass rank insignia worn on the left and right collars
  - Red-white-and-blue aiguillette on right shoulder (yellow braid for eighth grade)
  - White t-shirt
  - Black necktie
  - Award ribbons centered over and resting upon top edge of left shirt pocket
  - Leadership tabs, if assigned
- Academy Dress Blue trousers with black web belt and brass buckle (white belt for eighth grade cadets)
- Black Academy low quarter oxford (the black athletic shoe is not worn with the Drill Blue or Dress Blue uniform)
- Black crew socks without logos (no ankle length or lo-cut socks)
- Blue saucer cap



## SAN ANTONIO ACADEMY | Uniform Guidelines: Drill Blue



*Be honest. Be kind. Be the best you can be.*

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**6. Dress Blue Uniform:** The Dress Blue uniform is worn on select days.

- Academy Dress Blue Jacket with:
  - Name tag on flap of right chest pocket (centered, with top edge aligned with inside top seam, and shirt material smooth and flat beneath)
  - Polished brass ranks and Leadership Tabs centered on both epaulets
  - Polished SAA brass collar ornament centered on upper right lapel and polished crossed-rifles brass collar ornament centered on upper left lapel (with apparent alignment with the inside of lapel line)
  - School shield centered above the right chest pocket, apx ¼ inch above the seam
  - Red-white-and-blue aiguillette on right shoulder (gold braid for 8th grade cadets)
  - Awards centered over top edge of left jacket pocket and resting upon top edge of left shirt pocket
- Plain white, long-sleeve dress shirt (NO button-down collars, colored buttons, or cuff links)
  - Black necktie
  - White t-shirt
- Academy Dress Blue trousers with black web belt and brass buckle (white belt for eighth grade cadets)
- Black Academy low quarter shoes (the black athletic shoe is not worn with the Drill Blue or Dress Blue uniform)
- Black crew socks without logos (no ankle length or lo-cut socks)
- Blue saucer cap



## SAN ANTONIO ACADEMY | Uniform Guidelines: Dress Blue

**RIGHT SHOULDER CORDS** 3rd through 7th grade wears red, white and blue aygulet. 8th grade wears the gold cord.

**SCHOOL SHIELDS** Centered above the right pocket, ¼ inch above the pocket seam.

**COLLAR BRASS SAA** centered on right upper lapel, with the letters horizontal. Crossed rifles centered on upper left lapel, rifles horizontal. 8th grade wears cut-out brass without backing disc.

**RANKS AND LEADER TABS** Centered on the epaulet between the button and shoulder seam.

**LEFT SHOULDER CORDS** White – All cords are worn on the left shoulder. The aygulet and 8th grade gold cord are worn on the right shoulder.

**NAME TAG** Centered on right pocket flap, top of name tag even with the stitch line.

**RIBBONS** Centered above Left pocket flap. Resting on, but not over, the flap. Some, or all, are worn. No medals are worn in combination with ribbons.



**ACADEMIC STARS** Sewn on right sleeve, two finger widths above the black braid. Subsequent stars are worn one finger width above the previous star, with stars oriented identically.

**BUTTONS** Oriented with the eagle's head and stars on top.



**MEDALS** Centered on Left pocket flap, top of medals are even with the stitch line. Medals are even with the stitch line. Medals are worn up to three across. Lower rows are under or touching the medals in the row above, centered on the pocket. 3rd through 7th grade may wear up to six medals, 8th grade may wear up to nine medals. No medals are worn in combination with ribbons.

7. **Hair Grooming Standards:** Hair will be clean, well-groomed, and present a professional appearance. Hair will be off the ears and above the collar. Bangs, when combed straight down, will not touch the eyebrows. The hairstyle will present a tapered appearance that conforms to the shape of the head, curving inward to a natural termination point without eccentric directional flow, twist, or spiking. Novelty haircuts and modifications to traditional hairstyles are not authorized. This includes hair jell, spiking, twist, hair coloring, and shaved heads.
8. **Shoes:** Three types of shoes are worn with The Academy’s uniforms.
- Black Low Quarter Oxford for the Dress, Drill, and Khaki uniform
  - All Black, all leather upper athletic shoe for the Khaki uniform
  - Athletic shoes for the P.E. uniform.

Shoes for the Khaki and Blue uniforms must be black, all leather, lace-up, plain-toe, and polishable with normal black paste or cream shoe polish. All black, all leather, athletic shoes are authorized to wear with the Khaki uniform. Cloth, suede, corfam, patent leather, and other synthetic or natural fiber shoes are not authorized. Uniform shoes must be kept polished, laced and tied, and in good repair at all times.

- Low Quarter Oxfords are worn with the Dress Blue, Drill Blue, and Khaki uniforms. The preferred brand is the “School Issue Scholar 5200 Uniform Shoe” (or similar oxford) sold by Amazon at this [LINK](#).



- All Black, all leather upper, athletic shoes may be worn with the Khaki uniform. These can be purchased locally or at Amazon. Nike shoe at this [LINK](#). New Balance at this [LINK](#).



**9. Cords and Tabs:** Cords and Leadership Tabs are used to note key leadership positions and team membership.

- Cords: Cords are worn on the left shoulder of the Khaki, Drill Blue, and Dress uniform.  
Note: The 8<sup>th</sup> grade gold cord is worn on the right shoulder in lieu of the aiguillette.
  - White – Choir Member
  - Green – Drum Corps Member
  - Blue & White – Color Guard
  - Blue & Yellow – Safety Escort



- Leadership Tabs: Tabs are worn on the epaulet of the Khaki, Drill Blue, and Dress uniform to denote key leaders. On the Dress uniform Tabs are centered on the epaulet with rank pinned above it and centered. On Khaki and Drill Blue uniform tabs are worn loose and close to the shoulder seam.
  - Green – Commanders
  - Blue – Platoon and Squad leaders
  - Red – First Sergeants



**10. Outerwear:** Outerwear is part of our Uniform discipline. Only school logo hoodies, fleece jackets, rain jackets, and wool caps (Beanie) are authorized to wear with the school uniform. These items can be purchased at the Uniform Store. In the case of extreme cold weather heavy jackets and gloves may be worn. We ask that heavy jackets and gloves have no logo and a solid color of Black, Navy, Gray, or Camouflage. Heavy jackets will not be worn indoors.



## Ribbons, Stars, and Pins

**General:** Ribbons, Stars, and Pins are awarded to students in recognition of academic achievement, individual merit and service, and individual and company team competition.

### 1. Academic Achievement

a. Dean's List Ribbon



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded for being on the SAA Dean's List for three grading periods during the school year. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

b. Summer Reading Ribbon



Criteria – Primary Grades. Awarded for reading the required number of books during the summer months, set by each grade. Also for completing requisite phonics programs. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the beginning of the school year for summer work.

c. Summer Math Ribbon



Criteria – Primary Grades. Awarded for completing the summer skills workbook set by each grade. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the beginning of the school year for summer work.



d. Academic Stars

Criteria – Grades 3-8. Awarded to students who, for three grading periods, have no grades below 85 and no "N" or "U" where numerical grades are not assigned. Awarded at the end of the school year.

### 2. Individual Merit and Service

a. Parents Club Ribbon



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who provided significant contribution and service to the Parents Club and their activities. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

b. Recycling Ribbon



Criteria – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who participate in the school's recycling program. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year. (New for 2020 – 2021. Replaces the Recycling Medal.)

- c. Merit Ribbon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the student, in each grade, who has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of cumulative merits for the school year. One ribbon is awarded annually per student in each grade at the end of the school year.

- d. Personal Appearance, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the student, in each grade, who has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of cumulative inspection scores for the school year. One ribbon is awarded annually per student in each grade at the end of the school year.

- e. Best Drill Cadet, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the student, in each grade, who has the 2<sup>nd</sup> best Drill score. The Best Drill Cadet is determined by a cumulative score taken from inspections, drill competitions, and Military Staff input for the school year. One ribbon is awarded annually per student in each grade at the end of the school year.

- f. COVID-19 Ribbon



Criteria – PK-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who were enrolled in SAA during the COVID-19 National Emergency. One ribbon is awarded per student.

### 3. Individual and Company Team Competition

- a. Sports Participation



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who participate in SAA sports and athletic programs. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

- b. High Point Company



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are members of the High Point Company for the school year. See Appendix F. (Graduation Awards) for further information. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

- c. Top Academic Company



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are members of the Top Academic Company for the school year. See Appendix F. (Graduation Awards) for further information. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

- d. Best Intramural Company



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are members of the Best Intramural Company for the school year. See Appendix F (Graduation Awards) for further information. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

e. Best Appearance Company



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are members of the Best Appearance Company for the school year. See Appendix F (Graduation Awards) for further information. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

f. Best Drill Company



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are members of the Best Drill Company for the school year. See Appendix F (Graduation Awards) for further information. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

g. Best Drill Platoon



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are members of the Best Drill Platoon for the school year. One ribbon is awarded annually per student at the end of the school year.

h. Good Conduct Ribbon



Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students will have an unblemished record of conduct and behavior, and who demonstrate honesty, kindness, and being their best. Who strive to meet the picture of an Academy Boy through Scholarship, Leadership, Integrity, and Brotherhood.

## Medals

**General:** Medals are awarded to students throughout the year to recognize outstanding performance or participation in various components of school life. Medals are typically an engraved disk with a blue ribbon hanger. Other medals may be neck ribbon or ribbon hangers of different colors to signify the degree of award.

### 1. Class and Subject Medals

Criteria – 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Medals are awarded to students, under Class and Subject Medals, who qualify under the following guidelines.

- Demonstrate an excitement for the subject for which the award is given.
- Demonstrate integrity.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude.
- Respond well to criticism.
- Take initiative.
- Work well within a group.
- Work independently.
- Contribute in a meaningful way to class discussion.
- Demonstrate higher level thinking skills.

Class and Subject medals are awarded during chapel at the end of the school year, typically starting in May and are nominated by Teachers and Staff. Most classes and subjects are limited to 3 awards per grade section (6 awards total for a class), however at the teacher's or staffer's discretion they may use this limit or give less, given the guidance above. The medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger. Award limits otherwise are:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade subjects are limited to 2 awards per grade section (4 awards per class).
- Geometry is limited to 2 awards.
- P.E. is limited to 3 per class
- Library is 2 per class.
- Social Studies is limited to 4 awards per class for 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades.
- World Cultures is limited to 4 awards in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Texas History and World Cultures is limited to 6 awards in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade US History is awarded to those who are nominated for both Texas History and World Cultures. Limited to 3 awards.
- US History is limited to 4 awards in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Debate and Drama award limits are established by the English Dept.



Medals for Class and Subject Awards are given for the following:

- English (3-8<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Spelling (3<sup>rd</sup>)
  - Handwriting (3<sup>rd</sup>)
  - Creative Writing (4-8<sup>th</sup>)
  - Drama (8<sup>th</sup>)
  - Debate (8<sup>th</sup>)
  - Public Speaking (6-7<sup>th</sup>)
- Math (3-6<sup>th</sup>)
  - Algebra (7-8<sup>th</sup>)
  - Geometry (8<sup>th</sup>)
- Physical Education (3-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Library (3-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Social Studies (3-5<sup>th</sup>)
  - World Cultures (6-7<sup>th</sup>)
  - Texas History (7<sup>th</sup>)
  - US History (7-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Computers (3-6<sup>th</sup>)
- Spanish (3-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Science (3-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Music (3-5<sup>th</sup>)
- Reading (3-6<sup>th</sup>)
- Literature (7-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Art (3-8<sup>th</sup>)
- Outdoor Leadership (3-8<sup>th</sup>)

## 2. Academic Achievement Medals.

### a. W.W. Bondurant, Sr. Award for Academic Excellence.

Criteria – 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with the top three highest numerical academic average in their class. 1<sup>st</sup> Place is a Gold SAA Medallion with Blue Ribbon Hanger. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place is a Silver SAA Medallion with Red Ribbon Hanger. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place is a Bronze SAA Medallion with White Ribbon Hanger. Awarded at graduation. Based on grade point average. Verified by the Director of Curriculum and Student Services



### b. Summer Reading Medal

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded for reading a prescribed number of books during the summer months, set by the Reading Department based on grade level. One medal, of 3 degrees (Gold, Silver, and Bronze) is awarded annually per student at the beginning of the school year for summer work. Verified by Teachers.

### c. Summer Math Medal

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded for completing the summer skills workbook set by the upper school Math Department. One medal is awarded annually per student at the beginning of the school year for summer work. Gold lamp of knowledge medal with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the beginning of the school year. Verified by Teachers.

d. Honor Books Medal

Criteria: 2-6<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded for reading a prescribed number of books, set by each class, during the school year. The medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by Teachers.

e. Top Debater Medal

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student whose performance during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade debate session topped all others. Based on the quality of delivery, behavior, and other factors apart from the actual arguments that were made. The medal is an engraved disk with red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by the Debate Coach.

f. Spelling Bee Champion and Runner-Up

Criteria: Awarded to champion and runner-up of the annual Spelling Bee Competition. The champion medal is an engraved disk with red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. The runner-up medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger.

g. Geography Bee Champion and Runner-Up

Criteria: Awarded to champion and runner-up of the annual Geography Bee Competition. The champion medal is an engraved disk with red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. The runner-up medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger.

h. Bondurant Oratorical Essay Winner

Criteria: 6, 7, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the winner of the annual Oratorical Essay contest. The medal is an engraved disk with red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. Administered in conjunction with the English Department and Alumni Council.

3. **Achievement, Enrichment, and Service Medals**

a. Medal of Merit

Criteria: PK – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to SAA students for significant meritorious achievement or significant service to the school or community that goes beyond the normal components of school life. The award includes a boxed medal set with ribbon. The student must be nominated, in writing, and submitted to the Commandant for this award. The letter of nomination must fully support the award request. The Head of School is the awarding authority.



b. Community Service Medal

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded for completing 25 hours or more of community service within a 12 month period. Community service activities must be described on the Community Service Award application form and the student must obtain a verifying signature and phone number of the supervising adult. Simple membership in community service organizations, such as church or Boy Scouts, does not count toward service. However, community service activities within such organizations do. The medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded upon completion of service. See Appendix A for the Community Service Form. Verified by the Commandant.

c. Battle of the Books

Criteria: 4-5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teams who place 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Battle of the Books competition, a reading incentive program. Students read books and come together, usually in teams, to demonstrate and test their knowledge of the books they have read. Each place receives an engraved medal with a blue ribbon hanger for 1<sup>st</sup> place, red ribbon hanger for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and white ribbon hanger for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Awarded at the end of the school year. Verified by the Reading Department Chair.

d. No Demerits Medal

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Discontinued starting the 2023-24 school year. Replaced by the Good Conduct Ribbon.

e. McGimsey Library Medal

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to one student for his love of literature and respect for the library. He is also helpful with critiquing books and other tasks in the library. Above all, this student exemplifies the school motto towards others at all times. The award is a specially designed medal with a red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by the school Librarian.

f. Museum Appreciation Medal

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to one student annually who has demonstrated an interest in the artifacts and art displayed in the San Antonio Academy Museum.

g. Living Legacy Medal

Criteria: 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who participate in the Living Legacy program. The medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by the program administrator.

h. Concert Choir

Criteria: 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who are active members of the SAA Concert Choir. The medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by Music Director.

i. Musical Mondays

Criteria: All Grades. Awarded to students who perform musical numbers on Monday's prior to school lunch. The medal is an engraved disk with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by Music Director.

j. Drum Corps

Criteria: 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grades. Awarded to students who are members of the Wildcat Battalion Drum Corps. The medal is a preformed music disk with blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Verified by the Commandant.

k. Outdoorsman of the Year

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to one 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who meets the following criteria:

- 10 Hours or more volunteering work with some type of outdoor program.
- Taken the Outdoor Leadership Elective for three years 6th, 7th, & 8th (at least one semester 6 & 7 grade year and both semester 8th grade year)
- Maintained an academic average of 90 or above
- Completed Hunters Education and Angler Education
- Demonstrate a passion for all outdoor activities: Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Hiking, Kayaking, Archery, Offshore Fishing, Outdoor Conservation, Rafting, Etc.

The medal is an engraved disk with a red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. Awarded at the end of the school year. Nominated by the Director of Outdoor Education.

## **Graduation Awards**

**General:** Medals, certificates, plaques and trophies are awarded to students at graduation to recognize outstanding performance or participation in various facets of school life.

### **1. Field Awards:**

Criteria: Company Award (3-8). Awarded for Company achievements. Commanders receive an individual pin-on medal: engraved medallion with a red, white, and blue ribbon hanger. The Company receives a streamer for their guidon and individual ribbons for company. The Company Commander is also noted on an engraved name plate, placed on a trophy that is held at the school. Field Awards include:

- Best Intramural Company – Determined by the consolidated scores of the Company and Battalion Challenge.
- Best Personal Appearance Company – Determined by cadets inspection and daily appearance scores.
- Best Drill Company – Determined by company and platoon drill competitions held throughout the school year.
- Top Academic Company – Determined by the current grade point average for the company.
- High Point Company – Determined by achieving the most points in each of the field awards noted above.

### **2. Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Kelso Color Guard Excellence Award:**

Criteria: Color Guard Member (7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade). Awarded for overall appearance, participation, skill, and performance. Individual medal of JROTC color guard medal design with blue and white neck ribbon. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Kelso plaque held at school. Selected by the Commandant and Military Staff.

### **3. Tex Hill Medal:**

Criteria: Battalion Commander (8<sup>th</sup> grade). Awarded to the Cadet Battalion Commander. Individual pin-on medal: engraved medallion with a red, white, and blue ribbon hanger and an inscribed silver plate. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Tex Hill plaque held at school.

### **4. No Demerit Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who did not receive a demerit from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Individual neck medal, blue and white ribbon.

### **5. Drew Kennedy Dean's List Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to students who have been listed on the Dean's List continually from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Individual neck medal, blue and white ribbon.

### **6. W.T. Bondurant Big Brother:**

Criteria: 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the student who exhibits kindness, friendliness and helpfulness toward his fellow students. Individual pin-on medal: engraved medallion with a red, white, and blue ribbon hanger and an inscribed silver plate. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Bondurant plaque held at school. Selected by faculty and staff.

7. **Sergeant Turner Big Brother:**

Criteria: 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the student who exhibits kindness, friendliness and helpfulness toward his fellow students. Individual pin-on medal: engraved medallion with a red, white, and blue ribbon hanger and an inscribed silver plate. Name is also engraved on a plate on the SGT Turner plaque held at school. Selected by faculty and staff.

8. **John Webster Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who exhibits commitment, hard work, integrity, respect, kindness, perseverance, and trustworthiness. Engraved cherry wood box. Name is also engraved on a plate on the John Webster plaque held at school. Selected by faculty and staff.

9. **Newman Choir Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir member who has participated in the SAA choir program for a minimum of 3 years and has demonstrated leadership, musicality, and an exemplary attitude during choir rehearsals and events. Engraved individual plaque. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Newman Choir Award plaque held at school. Selected by the Music Department.

10. **Joseph Gaimbruno Social Studies:**

Criteria: 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who consistently demonstrates a passion for history which is expressed through a positive attitude, frequent classroom participation, and insightful contributions that inspire other students in the class. Engraved individual plaque. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Gaimbruno plaque held at school. Selected by the Social Studies Department.

11. **Peacock Cadet Medal:**

Criteria: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student who demonstrates a high degree of scholastic aptitude and achievement, character, and leadership. Certificate and Medal provided by the Peacock Alumni Association. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Peacock Award plaque held at school. Selected by faculty and staff.

13. **J. Stuart Pearce Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who has the highest combined average in Algebra and English. Engraved individual plaque. Name is also engraved on a plate on the J. Stuart Pearce Award plaque held at school.

14. **Joseph C. Mellard:**

Criteria: 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who demonstrates artistic talent. Engraved individual plaque. Name is also engraved on a plate on the Joseph C. Mellard Award plaque held at school. Selected by the Art Department.

15. **Will Harte Spanish Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who has been in the Spanish program for 3 years and demonstrates a passion for Spanish culture and language which is expressed through a positive attitude, frequent classroom participation, and insightful contributions that inspire other students in the class. Engraved individual plaque. Selected by the Spanish Department.

16. **Dr. William Darrell Willerson Award:**

Criteria: Awarded to an 8th grade student who demonstrates outstanding appreciation of science, has excelled in the science program, and displays discipline and passion for learning. Engraved individual plaque. Selected by the Science Department.

17. **Joseph Rubin Trophy/Colonels Cup:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who possess outstanding qualities of leadership, ethics, and a personal concern for others. Individual Neck Medal with blue and white ribbon. Name is engraved on the trophy plate which is held at school. Selected by the faculty and staff.

18. **J.D. Priest Trophy:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who has a high academic average (but who is not the valedictorian or salutatorian), and who has made a positive contribution to the school's athletic teams. Individual trophy. Name also engraved on a plate on the J.D. Priest Award plaque held at school. Selected by the Physical Education Department.

19. **Coach Burke Cup:**

Criteria: 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who has excelled in the school's athletic programs. Individual trophy. Name also engraved on a plate on the Burke Award plaque held at school. Selected by the Physical Education Department.

20. **Robert A. Harman:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who demonstrates a passion for the school and its traditions, expressed through leadership, academic endeavor, and athletic participation. Engraved individual plaque. Selected by faculty and staff.

21. **Frank Huntress Award:**

Criteria: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to the Valedictorian. Engraved individual plaque. Name also engraved on a plate on the Valedictorian plaque held at school.

22. **W.W. Bondurant, Sr.:**

Criteria – 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Awarded to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with the top three highest numerical academic average. 1<sup>st</sup> Place is a Gold Medallion with Blue Ribbon Hanger. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place is a Silver Medallion with Red Ribbon Hanger. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place is a Bronze Medallion with White Ribbon Hanger.

## Appendix A. Resources and links

- “History of Drill”  
<https://www.peoriapublicschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=36523&dataid=67273&FileName=The%20History%20of%20Drill.pdf>
- US Army Training Circular 3-21.5 “Drill and Ceremonies”: A good resource for Commanders, Guideon Bearers, and members of the Color Guard.  
[https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR\\_pubs/DR\\_a/ARN32297-TC\\_3-21.5-000-WEB-1.pdf](https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pubs/DR_a/ARN32297-TC_3-21.5-000-WEB-1.pdf)
- “Rapid Start Leadership”: A great place for quick lessons on leadership.
  - Are You a Potential Leader? 7 Ways to Get Noticed  
<https://www.rapidstartleadership.com/potential-leader-7-ways-to-get-noticed/>
  - How to Teach using the EDGE Method – 2 Minute Tip  
<https://www.rapidstartleadership.com/how-to-teach-using-the-edge-method-2-minute-tip/>
  - Building Trust: Six Building Blocks <https://www.rapidstartleadership.com/building-trust/>
  - Leadership Exercises: 7 Ways to Build Your Influencing Muscles  
<https://www.rapidstartleadership.com/leadership-exercises/>
  - Like Geese in a Row – What We Forget About Leadership  
<https://www.rapidstartleadership.com/geese-in-a-row/>
- Drill Videos
  - Individual Drill <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgxlfwOJ6mY&t=10s>
  - Squad Drill <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hzfAaWtzYw&t=114s>

