

Proud Panther

The purpose of the Proud Panther is to recognize Westwood Independent School District alumni, staff, volunteers, and other individuals who have distinguished themselves by their contributions to the school district and the community.

Nomination Criteria

An individual may be considered for nomination for inclusion in the Proud Panther Hall of Recognition if the following criteria have been met:

Student: There is a ten-year waiting period from the time of their WHS graduation.

Administrator: May be considered anytime - post retirement or leaving the District.

Donor: May also be considered.

Supporter: People who have greatly contributed to the Westwood High School community will be eligible for induction

Staff member: Must have been removed from their employment with the Westwood Independent School District for a minimum of three years prior to nomination and whose efforts have contributed significantly to the Westwood Community School District.

Graduate (Alumnus): May be eligible for nomination ten years following graduation and whose accomplishments have been recognized as significant since their graduation to the Westwood Independent School District and the community.

Community Member: Individuals who may or may not have been a graduate of the Westwood High School, but who have made a significant contribution, which helped make the Westwood Independent School District a better place for children.

A nominee may be living or deceased. Each person nominated must be or was of outstanding character and able to serve as a positive, inspiring role model to young people and our community.

Recognition as a distinguished Proud Panther shall be limited to those individuals, retired, living or deceased, and have made significant accomplishments in one or both of the following areas while maintaining high standards in personal integrity and character:

- o An outstanding leader in his/her field
- o Significant contributions to the District and whose virtues or characteristics will serve as role models to students, staff, and the community.
- o Significant contribution to public education or has made some significant connection with the District either as a student, an alumnus, as staff member, an administrator, a donor, or a supporter.
- o Substantial contributions to his or her field of endeavor or to society in general.
- o Service to his/her community through local, state, and national organizations
- o Outstanding contribution to the Westwood Independent School District or our community through partnership, leadership, monetary contribution, or volunteer service.

Nomination Process

Any adult who resides within the Westwood Independent School District may make a nomination. The completed nomination form must be returned to the Office of the

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Superintendent no later than December 15th of that year. The nominating individual should include supporting documentation such as records, newspaper clippings, tapes, and letters of support with the nomination form.

1. Provide biographical, geographical, or regional/environmental data to support the nomination. In order to be considered by the nominating committee, a nomination form must be completed and include the following:
 - o Description of career and professional achievements.
 - o List of volunteer and philanthropic activities.
 - o Recognition and awards received from local, state, and national level.
 - o Supplemental materials such as news clippings, letters of recommendation, and/or other printed resources should be attached for consideration during the selection process by the nominator.
2. State what significant contribution or symbolism the person, event, place, or area has made to education or to the local community.