

Alvin Independent School District

December 8, 2020

To	AISD Board of Trustees
Agendum	Student & Faculty Commendations
Category	Recognition
Resource Personnel	Carol Nelson, Superintendent Renaë Rives, Communications
Attachments	None
Rationale	<p><i>Trustees Humbird and Scheibel will now present the commendations:</i></p> <p><i>Student Commendations</i></p> <p>Karthik Bhagavatula – Shadow Creek HS Praneel Bhagavatula – Nolan Ryan JH</p> <p>Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott, Honorary Chair of the 2020 Governor's Volunteer Awards, announced the recipients of the 37th annual Governor's Volunteer Awards. These awards — presented in conjunction with OneStar Foundation — honor the exemplary service of individuals, groups, and organizations that have made a significant and measurable contribution to Texas communities through service and volunteering in the past year. Congratulations Alvin ISD students Karthik and Praneel Bhagavatula for receiving the First Lady's Rising Star Award for their Three Mask-eteers project.</p> <p>When the COVID-19 pandemic began, Amar Sehgal (17), Karthik Bhagavatula (15), and Praneel Bhagavatula (13)—known as “The Three Mask-eteers”—banded together to apply their ingenuity and community spirit toward designing and producing high-quality, long-use masks that have prevented Houstonians and other Texans from falling prey to the deadly virus. The team spent weeks researching and developing a reusable 3-D printed mask prototype with disposable filters, then collaborated with Environmental Officers at local hospitals to further refine the mask design. Over the course of five months, more than 200 masks and 2,000 filters have been distributed at no cost to vulnerable populations across the state, including healthcare workers and first responders.</p>

	<p>Staff Commendations</p> <p>Levi Duncan – Alvin High School Levi Duncan, head choral director at Alvin High School, was recently selected as a Class Nobel <i>Educator of Distinction</i> by The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). A role model to pupils, Levi was nominated for his outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in the profession.</p> <p>Each year, student members of NSHSS are invited to nominate the educator who has made the most significant contribution to their academic career for this award. Mr. Duncan’s nomination as an <i>Educator of Distinction</i> is a testament to the lasting impact he is making on today’s youth. This honor is bestowed on Mr. Duncan in honor of his dedication to teaching and learning and the difference he is making as a source of inspiration and leadership to his students.</p>
District Goal(s)	None
Budget Implications	None
Recommendation or Proposed Motion	That a commendation be presented to the students and staff listed above.