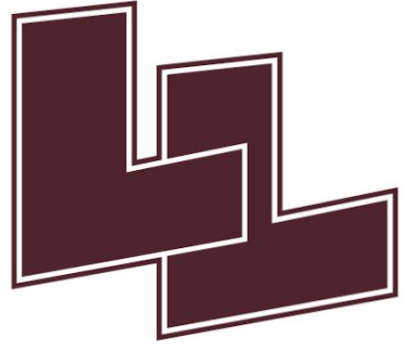


DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Christina Courson
Executive Director of Communications & Community Services
(512) 398-0033 office
(512) 738-1413 cell
Christina.Courson@lockhart.txed.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



July 02, 2020

Mark Estrada named Young Alumni Rising Star by Texas State University



Texas State University announced the selection of Superintendent Mark Estrada as a [Young Alumni Rising Star Award Honoree for 2020](#). Estrada is one of three notable Texas State alumni selected for this honor.

The Young Alumni Rising Star Award was created in 2015 to honor Texas State alumni who are under the age of 40. Recipients of this award demonstrate a level of excellence which positively represents the university, and serve to inspire current students and other recent graduates to excel in their work and recognize the important impact of their experience as a student at Texas State.

Since graduating from Texas State University with a Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science in 2006 and a master of Science in Secondary Education in 2009, Estrada catapulted into increasing levels of responsibilities in a short period of time due to his visionary and bold leadership.

In each of his roles as teacher, instructional leader, principal, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction, and currently as superintendent, Estrada strived to break through the status quo and lead others to the next level, raising expectations for students and staff that resulted in increases in student growth and achievement.

In his recommendation letter to Texas State, LISD Board President Steve Johnson noted, “Because of the tremendous contributions he has made in such a short time in Lockhart ISD, as well as his visionary leadership, the LISD Board of Trustees hired Mr. Estrada as our superintendent of schools in 2018. He had already transformed systems, raised expectations, boosted student growth and achievement, and was the architect of our 1.5 strategy; we knew we wanted to continue on that same upward trajectory, all the while excited about where he would lead us next!”

The leadership he demonstrates is not limited to LISD. Even as he shoulders this tremendous responsibility, Estrada seeks opportunities to serve elsewhere to benefit the community, public education in Texas, and Texas State University. He is an active member of the Lockhart Evening Lions Club, regularly attends Education Foundation for Lockhart ISD meetings and volunteers his time to support their efforts, helps promote community fundraisers, and is a coach for both youth basketball and soccer in our community. He is an E3 Alliance RaiseUP Texas Steering Committee Member, E3 Alliance Principles of Promise Steering Committee Member, Edu-rise Board Member, and Texas State University College of Education Advisory Board member. He is also affiliated with the Texas Association of School Administrators and Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Most recently, the Austin Area Research Organization (AARO) invited Estrada to join other Central Texas business and civic leaders from Travis, Williamson, Hays, Bastrop, Burnet, and Caldwell counties, to focus on long-term challenges and solutions to enhance the economic and social well-being of all Central Texans.

“I am incredibly honored by this award from Texas State University,” said Estrada. “I am grateful to all of my professors as well as my professional mentors who challenged, humbled, and guided me on this journey. Because of the support of committed leaders in LISD, our dedicated staff, and our engaged community, we have been able to work together to ensure our students are at an advantage because they go to school in Lockhart ISD.”

Estrada is currently a doctoral candidate in the Cooperative Superintendency Program at The University of Texas at Austin, a competitive and highly-regarded program, consistently ranked in the top three nationally with Harvard University and Columbia University.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Texas State University will honor Estrada and other honorees at an awards gala in 2021.

#