



Fennville Public Schools

# Distinguished Alumni Program

In order to recognize and inspire excellence at Fennville Public Schools, the *Distinguished Alumni* program honors truly outstanding graduates of Fennville High School. To be eligible for recognition as a *Distinguished Alumnus*, a graduate will have demonstrated true excellence in an achievement, a series of achievements, or over a career. Recognition as a *Distinguished Alumnus* is the highest honor Fennville Public Schools bestows upon a graduate.

## Nomination Process

Nomination forms are available on the District website as well as in the high school office and Central Office. Completed forms may be submitted at any time. Nominations must be received before March 31 to be considered in that year's selection process. Posthumous nominations are accepted.

The selection committee reserves the right to consider a nomination for up to three years. The committee will choose no more than two *Distinguished Alumni* any year, and is not required to choose any of the nominees should the review, rank, and vote process not elevate a nominee to such status.

## Selection Committee

The membership of the selection committee will meet once annually and review all nominations to determine if any nominee or nominees will receive *Distinguished Alumni* status.

The selection committee shall include the following:

- High School Principal, who will serve as Committee Chairperson
- President of the Board of Education, or a chosen designee from the board
- President of the Alumni Association, or a chosen designee from the association
- President of the Fennville Educational Foundation, or a chosen designee from the foundation
- Current High School Faculty Member
- Retired High School Faculty Member, as chosen by the Alumni Association
- One additional member selected by the Alumni Association

A nominee will be selected for *Distinguished Alumni* recognition when it is determined he or she has met all of the eligibility requirements, five out of seven members of the committee cast a yes vote for such recognition, and the nominee is one of the top two vote recipients in the annual selection committee meeting.

## General Criteria

- Graduate of Fennville High School of ten or more years from graduation date of current senior class
- Demonstrated personal characteristics of character, leadership, service, and citizenship
- Demonstrated true and sustained distinction in a category of nomination over a period of time



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## Categories for Nomination:

The submission of a name for consideration will be made in one of eight categories. Nominees in these categories must have demonstrated high levels of achievement, award recognition, and/or significant contributions in their field, including (but not limited to) information provided as guidance in each category.

1. **Science, Medicine, and Technology**—graduates who distinguished themselves with high regard or distinction through important medical accomplishments, the development of procedures, products, processes or research findings that benefit lives and/or communities, and/or make a significant contribution to the body of knowledge in a scientific, medical, or technology field.
2. **Business, Industry, and Professional**—graduates who are recognized, respected, influential leaders in business and/or industry, banking, scholarship, education, or the practice of law.
3. **Arts and Entertainment**—graduates who are established, well-known, or frequently published creators and/or performers of art, winners of significant awards or accolades in a field of art or entertainment, influential critics, or leaders and/or cultivators in the art or entertainment communities beyond the immediate environment of where that person lives and works.
4. **Humanitarian and Service**—graduates who have provided consistent and significant service to the local, state, national, or world communities in a way that exhibits integrity and a commitment to the interest of bettering the lives of others.
5. **Career or Military Service Distinction**—graduates who have demonstrated/attained prominence through his or her sustained effort and/or other worthy endeavors that form a record of accomplishment impressive to the citizens of Fennville.
6. **Athletics**—graduates who are standouts in a sport or sport-related career after high school beyond the immediate environment of where that person lives and works, such as all-American status, competing as an Olympian or professional athlete, or as a renowned or especially successful coach, sport specialist, promoter, or trainer.
7. **Breaking Boundaries**—graduates whose attainment of distinction includes having had to overcome significant personal, community, or cultural challenges, and/or who serve as examples of pioneers in their achievements as representatives of a historically underserved or underrepresented community.
8. **Lifetime Recognition**—graduates who may not have attained *Distinguished Alumni* status in another category, but whose life demonstrates extraordinary moral character and dignity.