



Arlington

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

More Than a Remarkable Education

THORNTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

March 21, 2018

Dear Arlington Chamber of Commerce,

On behalf of our students, their families, and the entire faculty and staff of Thornton Elementary, it is my honor to recommend the Arlington Sunrise Rotary for the Arlington Chamber of Commerce 2018 Outstanding Not-For-Profit Small Business of the Year Award. The Arlington Sunrise Rotary has been a valued partner in education for many years. Generous gifts from them provide the moral and financial support needed for us to continue our mission.

In the eight years that I have been a principal at Thornton Elementary, the rotary has made faithful contributions which demonstrate their deep commitment to our Thornton community. These contributions have included:

- Two tablets every six weeks to encourage good attendance
- A gift card for the teacher of the winning students with perfect attendance
- Dictionaries for every third grade student
- Teacher luncheon in August to kick off the school year
- Christmas stocking for every student
- Laundry baskets full of household items for 40 families in December
- Beautification of our school gardens
- Soccer goals installed in our fields
- Uniforms and supplies for our soccer students
- Building awnings to provide shade for teacher/parents at door dismissal in PK
- Monetary donation to fund Chess Club tournaments
- Day of Service (helped teachers on the August teacher work day)

Their continued support with the attendance incentive, for example, has repeatedly played a key role in our success in improving our attendance rate. Also, the soccer goals have allowed for our students to have a safe place to play in the evenings and in the weekends. The best part of having the soccer goals and supplies is that we now have a soccer team who is really, really good. Last year, they won the championship and they are on track to bringing home the championship trophy again this year. To this end, the Arlington Sunrise Rotary donations inspire and motivate our students.

There is no way to fully express my gratitude for their loyalty. I am continually inspired by their dedication and generosity.

Sincerely,

Alicia Rodriguez

Principal