

Richard Landon to receive the Outstanding Volunteer Award

Richard Landon has been a true champion for students, parents and teachers for many years across the Pinellas School District. His exceptional efforts and sizable amounts of time volunteered at Seminole Middle School have been a “game changer” for our learning community. His contributions as a school volunteer touch many areas that have impacted hundreds of students and families. The number of volunteer hours performed by Richard are immeasurable as his dedicated efforts are seen both inside and outside the school building.

The monthly All Pro Dad meetings have become a staple in our school community. Richard has personally planned and facilitated the monthly program for numerous years at multiple schools. The purpose of All Pro Dad is to encourage and promote opportunities for fathers and male role models to play an integral role in their child’s education. We typically have a large number of attendees each month. The impact of this program has been substantial, as we have clearly observed an increase in the number of fathers volunteering at school and attending events.

Several years ago, Richard played a critical role establishing the 5000 Role Models of Excellence program at Seminole Middle School. This organization is designed to provide mentoring to at-risk male students. Through his efforts and leadership, a vibrant organization was created which impacts male students. Student attendance, behavior and academic achievement were improved through the dedicated team of mentors Richard helped to organize.

Seven years ago, the Greater Ridgecrest Community Coalition was created with a vision of supporting students from cradle to career. Richard has served as the chair of the coalition since its inception. Over twenty-one non-profit organizations participate in this community coalition, which meets monthly. Seminole Middle School has a large student population from neighborhoods in Ridgecrest. Richard’s tireless efforts and hundreds of hours spent coordinating a multitude of activities to support the school’s relationship with the community are tremendous. For instance, Richard has supported numerous evening family workshops and events to promote the importance of education. Each year, Richard coordinates a community tour escorting teachers from Seminole Middle School on a tour of the community to cultivate deeper relationships with parents and local organizations. This has strengthened school-to-home partnerships, which have benefited our students.

Richard’s presence is visible at multiple schools across the Seminole and Largo school communities. He has been a champion for programs like pack-a-sack, character education, literacy, and mentoring at-risk students.

Richard Landon’s contributions, volunteering hundreds of hours supporting students and families at Seminole Middle School, make him deserving to receive this special award.