

Justin Kenney for Board of Education Post 3

Justin Kenney is the current Post 3 member of the Board of Education, a position to which he was appointed in April 2023. He is a lifelong resident of Rockdale County, and is a 2002 graduate of Rockdale County High School. Justin found his voice when he joined the MCJROTC program his freshman year. Upon graduation, he was commander of the drill team and battalion executive officer. He also enjoyed tremendous academic success, and was awarded co-salutatorian of his graduating class.

After graduating Rockdale County High School, Justin attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Justin was heavily involved on campus during his undergraduate career. In 2006, he graduated Magna cum Laude as a double major in Political Science and Economics and a minor in Mathematics. It was at Vanderbilt that Justin met his wife, Jennifer.

Justin always knew that he ultimately wanted to become involved in politics, and figured the best route to those aspirations would be to attend law school. After graduating from Vanderbilt, Justin enrolled in the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. During his law school career, he was an intern at the Macon-Bibb County Department of Economic and Community Development. He was also a two-semester participant of the Habeas Project, the only program in Georgia at that time to represent non-capital, post-conviction cases on a pro bono basis. Justin received the Cali Award in the Habeas Project for being the top student therein. Justin obtained his Juris Doctorate with an Advanced Legal Writing Certificate in 2009.

Upon graduating law school, Justin returned home to Rockdale County, and joined the law firm of Lavigno & Morton. Working for a general practitioner firm, Justin was exposed to many areas of the law, including personal injury, criminal defense, contract disputes, probate matters, domestic relations, landlord/tenant issues, and property matters.

In 2012, Justin became partner of the Law Firm of Lavigno & Kenney, ultimately becoming the managing partner. In 2022, he founded The Kenney Law Firm. He is the former treasurer of and is a former president of the Rockdale County Bar Association. He was a very active member of the Family Law Information Center hosted by the Clerk of Superior and State Courts of Rockdale County, where he donated his time helping those who could not afford to get the legal assistance they needed. For his efforts, in 2016, he was named the Family Law Information Center's Attorney of the Year. He is a member of the Leadership Rockdale Class of 2018 and volunteers his time in many classrooms in the Rockdale County Public Schools. He is a former member of the board of Hills Academy, a private school for young men in Rockdale County. Justin was also the inaugural speaker of the Clerk of Courts Law Library Speaker Series, speaking on Landlord/Tenant issues. Justin serves on the Mayor's Council on Diversity and Inclusion for the City of Conyers and is a founding member of Courageous Conversations Rockdale, two groups that work on tearing down barriers of racial division in our community.

Justin is a respected member of the legal community in Rockdale County, and has garnered a reputation of being an effective and stylized advocate for his clients. In 2023, he was voted Best of the Best Attorney by the readers of the Rockdale Citizen.

His wife Jennifer is in her fifteenth year of teaching in public school. She has taught in Rockdale County for ten years and is currently teaching fifth grade at Lorraine Elementary School. Justin and Jennifer live in south Rockdale County with their six-year-old son Phoenix and their three-year-old daughter Isla.

PLATFORM:

Accountability: Ensure that the Board of Education of Rockdale County holds accountable the Superintendent and his administration for failures in achievement and teacher morale.

Transparency: Ensure tax dollars are spent in a manner that best promotes the interests of student achievement and expose unnecessary waste.

Achievement: Ensure that every student in Rockdale County has the best opportunity for achievement, including recruiting, training, *and retaining* quality teachers.