

Alvord ISD Family:

The Alvord ISD Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on August 25 and a called meeting on August 27. Below are the key highlights:

August 25, 2025

- **Accountability Ratings Update** – The board received an update on the district's accountability ratings released last week.
- **Enrollment Growth** – Current student enrollment is 874, up 860 on the first day of school this year and up from 831 at the end of last school year, reflecting steady growth across the district.
- **Student Transfers** – This year, 53 transfer students are enrolled, compared to 60 last years, 72 two years ago, and 104 three years ago. Of the 53 transfers, 25 are children of Alvord ISD employees. Due to enrollment growth we stopped accepting new transfer students unless their parent is an employee of the district or they already have an older sibling enrolled. Student transfers now represent 6% of total student enrollment.
- **Facilities Update** – Progress continues on several projects, including the stadium press box and concession stand, which are expected to be ready for the home football opener tomorrow night (Friday, August 29). The ag barn project also remains underway. We are especially grateful to the many volunteers and vendors, many of them local, who have generously donated time, labor, and resources to help us meet these goals before our first home game. Their hard work has made a tremendous difference, and we look forward to recognizing them more formally at tomorrow night's football game.
- **Budget Workshop** – Trustees reviewed the proposed 2025–2026 budget in preparation for adoption at the August 27 called meeting.
- **Defeasance Resolution** – The board approved a resolution allowing discretion to maintain the Interest & Sinking (I&S) tax rate at \$0.1247 rather than compressing to \$0.1173, which will allow early bond payoff and is projected to save the district approximately \$110,200.
- **Safety & Security Committee** – Board Member Toby George will join board president Daniel Ruddick as members of the district's safety and security committee, as required by state law.
- **Trustees Nepotism Acknowledgement** – Trustees acknowledged compliance with state nepotism laws as part of the annual audit process.
- **Employee Handbook Update** – Trustees reviewed proposed employee handbook language related to visible tattoos. The new guideline emphasizes professional appearance while clarifying that tattoos deemed excessive, inappropriate, or inconsistent with an educational environment may be required to be covered. Staff feedback and survey results were shared with the board.

August 27, 2025

- **2025–2026 Budget & Tax Rates** – The board adopted a balanced budget for the 2025–2026 school year and set the tax rates, keeping them the same as last year.
- **Budget Amendment** – the board approved an additional \$40,000 for work on the Ag Barn project.
- **Budgeted Employee Compensation Highlights** –
  - Experienced teachers received either a \$4,000 or \$8,000 salary increase based on years of experience.
  - All other employees received a 5% of midpoint pay increase.
  - Pay for substitute teachers was increased.
- **New Positions & Additions** – The budget includes funding for:
  - One additional 5th grade teacher
  - One additional elementary special education teacher
  - Two additional instructional aides
  - One additional police officer
  - Purchase of a new school bus

We are currently searching for two additional Special Education teachers or aides (one at the Intermediate School and one at the Middle school) due to an increase in the number of students receiving special education services at those campuses.

We are off to a fantastic start to the 2025–2026 school year! It has been wonderful welcoming new students and staff to the Bulldog family, and we are excited about the energy they bring to our schools. With new facility upgrades taking shape, strong accountability results, and a balanced budget that keeps our district on solid financial ground, the future looks bright. It's going to be a great year in Alvord ISD!

Randy Brown  
Alvord ISD Superintendent