March 27 School Board Meeting Highlights

Alvord ISD Family: I have some highlights for you from the March 27, 2023 school board meeting.

Wise County Shared Services (Special Education) Coop – Bridgeport ISD has notified us of their intent to withdraw from the Coop in the summer of 2024. Bridgeport ISD is currently the fiscal agent and physical location of the Cooperative. We discussed the negative financial impact this decision will have on Alvord ISD and the other member school districts. The remaining member school districts (Alvord ISD, Chico ISD, Boyd ISD, Paradise ISD, and Slidell ISD) will be working on plans for the 2024-2025 school year.

Facilities Update - the Intermediate Campus renovation project is progressing on schedule and within budget. We are scheduled to move in to the renovated building soon after the July 4th holiday. We are working on several additional projects including adding HVAC to the Intermediate Campus gym. Work on the new walkway from the high school to the fieldhouse / stadium area should begin later this spring semester. We will soon be seeking competitive sealed proposals for the Ag Shop expansion project and the football stadium lighting project. We will also be bringing a proposal to resurface the track at the next school board meeting.

SHAC Resolution – Our High School and Middle School counselors Catherine Kelly and Bonnie Foreman have asked the School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) to consider a new abstinence instruction program for middle school and high school students. Alvord ISD School Board Policy EHAA (LOCAL) policy requires the board to first adopt a resolution convening the SHAC committee to recommend the curriculum materials for instruction. The resolution was approved. The SHAC committee will hold two public meetings presenting the curriculum materials to the public before recommending the curriculum materials to the board for approval at the April board meeting.

The SHAC committee will present this information for the public on Thursday, April 6th at Alvord Middle School at 4 p.m. and again on Thursday, April 20th at 4 p.m. at Alvord High School.

If the program is recommended to the board and then approved by the board, parents must also opt their child in to receive the abstinence based instruction. Parents will have another opportunity to hear a presentation on the program before deciding if they want to opt their child in.

The proposed program is called the 180 degrees, I have copied a link to their website below: <u>https://180degreestx.com/</u>

Bus Purchase – the board ordered a new school bus for the 2023-2024 school year. The 77 passenger bus will be equipped with air conditioning and cameras at a cost of \$140,890. We hope to receive the bus in September or October. The board approved two new activity buses in April of 2022 that we hope to receive in May of 2023.

Food Service Van – the board approved the purchase of a 2017 GMC Cargo Van from Neighborhood Auto for \$26,302. The van will be used to transport meals to the new Intermediate Campus.

Contracts for Teachers, Counselors, School Nurses – the board approved the recommended contracts for teachers, counselors, nurses and nurses.

New Employees - the board approved the following new employees for the 2023-2024 school year:

Abagail Reynolds will be an elementary teacher. She has been working as an instructional aide at the elementary school, she was moved to a second grade teaching position earlier this school year.

Jay Johnson will return as an assistant coach and teacher at the high school or middle school. Coach Johnson is currently the head football coach at Perrin-Whitt, he coached and taught here from 2018-2022.

Damon Motley has filled a vacancy for us in our Ag Mechanics classes this year and has agreed to return next year. Mr. Motley previously retired from Van Alstyne ISD.

Kinly Walker will be the new volleyball head coach; she will be teaching Health Science Technology classes at Alvord High School. She is a graduate of West Texas A&M University and Alvord High School.

Dr. Randy Brown Alvord ISD Superintendent