January 23 Board Meeting Highlights

Alvord ISD Family:

I have some highlights for you from the January 23rd school board meeting.

School Board Appreciation Month – each January is designated by the Texas Association of School Boards as Board Appreciation Month. This gives us the opportunity to thank our school board members for their service to our kids and schools. The board was served a meal prepared by the Alvord HS FCCLA students, heard presentations from the FCCLA students, and were entertained by the AMS Choir students.   The board received gift bags from Alvord Middle School, the board room was decorated by Alvord Elementary students and staff. Jimmy Looney, Lance Thweatt, Russell Rice, Daniel Ruddick, Mark Gose, David Warren, and Shane Rusmussen serve as Alvord ISD school board members. They are a dedicated group of volunteers who truly serve to help our students and staff succeed.   Please join me in thanking them for everything they do for Alvord ISD!

Food Services Grant – Alvord ISD Food Services Director Shelly Laaser applied for a grant for new kitchen equipment, we are pleased to announce that we were awarded $92,00 in grant funds.

Financial Audit –Paul Fleming from Edgin, Parkman, Fleming & Fleming PC presented the 2021-2022 audit.   Food services expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Fund by $52, 128 in the Food Services function. Although revenues exceeded expenditures in the food services budget, the auditors advised that we amend the budget accordingly in the future. The fund balance rose from $4,539,957 to $6,309,760, an increase of $1,769,803. The improvements to facilities the district is working on are being paid for out of the fund balance.

First Financial Investment Options – Jim Weaver and Richard Young from First Financial Trust reviewed investment options with the board.

Maintenance Tax Note Payment – a budget amendment for $1,747,760 was approved to make an early payment on the 3.5 million dollar Maintenance Tax Note (MTN) loan the board took out to pay for the Intermediate School renovation project. This will be paid out of the fund balance. The board reduced the total interest due on the MTN by $487,609 by making the prepayment.

Facilities Update – The board heard an update on the Intermediate School renovation project which is on schedule and within budget. We are on schedule to move in after the 4th of July holiday.   The board also heard an update on the following projects the district is working on:

1. Intermediate School Gym HVAC
2. Sidewalk / Bridge / Drainage Repair from HS to FH
3. Football Stadium LED Lighting
4. Ag Shop Expansion
5. Football / Track Storage Building

6. Track Resurfacing

2023-2024 Staffing Plan – due to our increase in student enrollment we are working on plans to fill the following new positions for next year:

3rd Grade Teacher
4th Grade Teacher
Intermediate School Special Education Teacher
Counselor (Intermediate & Middle School)
Intermediate School Custodian
2 Food Service staff (Intermediate School)

Mrs. Bull and Mrs. Hopkins will be moving from the Middle School to the Intermediate School. We will be hiring a new Middle School Principal and a new administrative assistant for the middle school.

We are projecting the new staff members to increase our payroll by $343,260.   We are projecting the operational costs (electricity, gas, water, trash, etc.) to increase our expenditures by $65,700.   The increase in revenue due to the increase in student enrollment will allow us to absorb these increase in costs to the budget.

TAPR - Each year we are required to hold a public hearing of our Educational Performance and the Texas Academic Performance Report.   We have created a web page that contains all of the required information. You can see the webpage at

https://www.alvordisd.net/academicperformance

School Board Election – the board is annually required to call a board election. The school board election information on our website which can be accessed on the link below:

https://www.alvordisd.net/schoolboardelections