Alvord ISD Family: — I have some background information for you on the October 19, 2021 called board meeting.

**Board Training** – Kelli Crain from ESC 11 led the board in the annual required Team of 8 training. The board received an update on recently passed legislation and approved the 2021-2022 Board Goals.

<u>Purchase of District Vehicles</u> – the board approved the purchase of two Chevrolet Traverse school district vehicles.

**Employee Health Insurance** - The board heard an update on an Employee Health Insurance decision TRS is forcing us to make for next school year.

Because we are a District of Innovation (DOI) we have recently been able to provide employees with an additional health insurance option. Alvord ISD employees have been able to choose between the Texas School Health Benefit Program or TRS Blue Cross Blue Shield for health insurance.

TRS is now requiring schools district to choose only their insurance, which is currently Blue Cross Blue Shield, or to opt out of TRS insurance coverage. If we opt out of TRS insurance to allow employees to choose another plan, in our case that would be the Texas School Health Benefit Program or Aetna, that decision will be binding for 5 years.

TRS is requiring districts to make a final decision by December 31, 2021. 94.2% of the Alvord ISD staff members who participated in the district survey voted to opt out of TRS. The District Educational Improvement Committee (DEIC) voted unanimously to recommend opting out of TRS insurance. I plan on asking the school board to approve a resolution opting Alvord ISD out of TRS insurance at our December school board meeting.

The regularly scheduled October board meeting planned for Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled as we were able to take care of these issues after the board training on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Randy Brown

Alvord ISD Superintendent