

Alvord ISD Family –

I have some highlights for you from the July 22, 2024 board meeting:

Personnel Updates – Anndra Mann will be teaching 4th grade math, Payton Twiner will be the elementary music teacher, and Gabby Vo and Jennifer Eberhart will be instructional aides at the elementary school.

New Police Officer – new police officer Victor Tran was sworn in. Officer Tran will start this week, he will primarily serve the elementary and intermediate campuses.

Defeasance Resolution – the board approved this resolution which allows them to keep the I&S Tax rate the same and not compress it due to the increase in taxable values. This would allow the district to collect more I&S tax revenue and pay off the current bonds early, saving money by reducing the amount of interest paid. This resolution doesn't set the tax rate, it only gives the board discretion when setting the tax rate in August. The current bond debt is scheduled to be paid off in 2029. If the board elects to keep the current tax rate the district is projected to save \$81,200 in interest paid.

August Called Board Meeting – the board scheduled a meeting to set the tax rates for the upcoming school year and close out the 2023-2014 budget on Thursday, August 28 at 6 pm.

Employee Compensation Plan – the board approved a much needed and well deserved 3% of midpoint increase in pay for all employees. This will cost the district approximately \$200,000 and give each continuing teacher a \$1600 increase.

District Contribution to the Employee Benefits Plan –the board increased district's monthly contribution for employees health insurance from \$308 to \$348.

2024-2025 School Calendar Revision – the board approved a revision to the calendar allowing us to release early for the homecoming parade on Friday, September 13

Staff Development Minutes Waiver – the board approved a waiver request which will allow us to receive instructional minutes' credit for 4 days of staff development this year (October 14-15, January 20, and February 17).

Breakfast and Lunch Prices – the board approved a \$0.25 increase for the price of breakfast, from \$1.75 to \$2.00 and a 10-cent increase in lunch prices to help cover the increased cost of food.

New Student Lunch Prices

K-5 (Elementary and Intermediate) increased 10 cents to \$2.95
6-8 (Middle School) increased 10 cents to \$3.05
9-12 (High School) increased 10 cents to \$3.25

Student Code of Conduct and Handbooks – the board approved the student code of conduct and reviewed all handbooks for the upcoming school year.

Wise County Extension Office Adjunct Faculty Request – this is an annual resolution brought to the board. The board approved request which allows students who are participating in off-campus activities with an adjunct faculty member to be counted in attendance.

Safety and Security – the board approved new Level 3 Guardians. These employees have met the requirements including background checks, psychological exams, and rigorous training to join our team of employees who volunteer to carry concealed weapons at each campus and throughout the district to protect our students, staff, and visitors.

Randy Brown
Alvord ISD Superintendent