

Alvord ISD Family:

I have some highlights for you from the January 22, 2024 school board meeting.

Board Appreciation Month – each January is designated as Board Appreciation Month by the Texas Association of School Boards. This gives us the opportunity to thank our school board members for their service to our kids and schools. The board was recognized by all of the campuses and served a meal at the High School Library by the FCCLA students. After the meal the board toured the High School Ag Shop expansion and saw a demonstration from Alvord ISD Police Chief Tony Vo and our new district K9 Ranger.

Current Alvord ISD School Board members are Jim Looney, Lance Thweatt, Russell Rice, Daniel Ruddick, Mark Gose, Aaron Moore, and Travis Taylor. Please take the opportunity to thank these gentlemen for their dedication and service to the students and staff of Alvord ISD.

Financial Audit – the board was presented the financial audit for the 2022-2023 school year. The audit was “clean” meaning there were no findings or deficiencies. The district fund balance is currently at \$4,589,944 which is a healthy fund balance for a district of our size. The board approved \$2,874,586 in budget amendments last year, mainly for improvements to district facilities. Although we are in good financial shape, we are not in a position to consider additional major facility projects at this time. We will most likely wait and analyze our fund balance and facility needs in January of 2025 before addressing any additional major facility projects. In other words, we will continue to budget conservatively and save before we spend.

Safety Update – Alvord ISD Police Chief Tony Vo informed the board that the elementary and middle school campuses recently passed their respective intruder audits conducted by the Texas School Safety Center with no findings. The Alvord ISD Police Department also passed their TCOLE (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement) audit with no findings.

Maintenance Tax Note Payment Budget Amendment the board approved a \$277,004.30 budget amendment to pay this year’s loan payment due on the Intermediate School renovation project.

TAPR – We held the annual required 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>

Thanks to the hard work of our teachers, students, and staff and with support and encouragement from parents we outperformed the state in every tested STAAR subject. We outperformed the state by 10 percentage points or more in 10 of the 17 tested subjects. 7th Grade Math, HS English I and HS English II all outperformed the state by 19 percentage points. I have copied a link to the article from the Wise County Messenger highlighting our performance below:

<https://www.wcmessenger.com/articles/new-staar-results-released/>

School Board Election Order and Calendar– the board called the May 4th school board election. Jim Looney and Lance Thweatt are up for election this year. Saturday, May 4 is the election date.

Candidates can file an application for a place on the Alvord ISD School board from January 17 until February 16. All of the school board election information is on our website and can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.alvordisd.net/schoolboardelections>

Superintendent's Evaluation & Contract– the board conducted my annual evaluation and extended my contract by one-year to June 30, 2027 (1-year extension / 3-year contract). I am very thankful to be a member of the bulldog team. We have great students, an awesome staff, and an exceptional school board. We can be proud of what we have accomplished together. We are in a position to achieve great things together in the future.

Randy Brown
Alvord ISD Superintendent