

## **February 26 Board Meeting Highlights**

Alvord ISD Family – I have some highlight for you from the February 26, 2024 school board meeting.

**2024-2025 Calendar** – The District Educational Improvement Committee (DEIC) has been working for several months now on the 2024-2025 calendar. The DEIC developed 3 calendar options and surveyed staff and parents. After considering the pros and cons of each calendar and the survey results the DEIC asked the board to approve a modified version of the extra breaks calendar, which the board did approve.

This calendar puts us in closer alignment with Bridgeport ISD's calendar which benefits our students who receive special education services at Bridgeport ISD. The calendar includes a week-long fall break October 14-18. Students will be out of school for the fall break while staff members will have two professional development days and three holidays. The approved calendar with more information will be sent out soon.

The 4-day calendar was the top choice of 62% of the staff and 57% of the parents, however, the DEIC didn't feel that was enough support for the significant change to a 4-day week calendar. The school districts we talked to that have adopted a 4-day week calendar typically saw much stronger support when surveying staff and parents. The DEIC also discussed concerns with the 4-day week calendar longer school day and supervision / care of students on Fridays, especially for the younger students. The extra breaks calendar was the second choice of 53% of the staff and 70% of the parents.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the surveys and to the DEIC committee for your hard work on this important issue.

**Facilities Report** – Director of Operations Charlie Mann gave an update on some recent renovation work on the Pre-K building. Director of Safety and Security Tony Vo gave an update on parking safety concerns for events at the elementary gym and cafeteria.

**Safety and Security Project Bids** – Tony Vo and Charlie Mann have been working on several security projects to improve and enhance safety for our students and staff and to get us in compliance with the new state standards. These projects will be paid for out of the grant money we have received. The board approved projects providing Security Fencing (\$85,590), exterior door replacement and upgrades (\$477,400), rekeying doors (\$34,500), a Silent Panic Alarm system (\$132,385) and an upgraded 2-Way Radio Communications project (\$79,885).

**Administrator Contracts** – the board approved contract extensions for Elementary Principal Jamie Mitchell, Intermediate School Principal Jessica Bull, Middle School Principal Brandy Mayfield, High School Principal Aaron Tefertiller, Athletic Director Marcus Grgurich, Director of Technology and Operations Charlie Mann, and Director of Safety and Security and Chief of Police Tony Vo. We have a great admin team, we have been very pleased with their work.

**Kindergarten Teacher** - the board approved the administrations recommendation to hire Shayna Stachowiak to teach Kindergarten next year. Mrs. Stachowiak is an Alvord High School graduate and former Alvord ISD employee, she is currently teaching Kindergarten at Bowie ISD.

**Dyslexia Teacher** - We are adding a dyslexia teacher next year due to an increase in the number of students who are receiving dyslexia services. Carrie Walker will be moving from her Intermediate School teaching position to the new Dyslexia position.

Randy Brown  
Alvord ISD Superintendent