## Alvord ISD Family

I have a few highlights from recent board meetings for you.

The board heard the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) report in December and the annual financial audit report in January. I am pleased to say that thanks to the hard work of our Business Manager Cindy Tackett and all of our staff we received the highest possible rating of superior on the FIRST report and the audit report was "clean" meaning there were no findings or deficiencies.

We continue to work on the elementary gym renovation project, the good news we received from our January financial audit report will hopefully allow us to continue with the next phase of work. The board will consider bids for what could be the last phase of the project at the February 2020 board meeting. This phase may include renovation of the classrooms on the north side, the foyer and bathrooms on the east side, and the creation of a storage area where the original locker rooms were on the south side. Our students have staff have been super about dealing with the inconveniences caused by this project. All of the sacrifices will be well worth it when the project is complete.

The board approved a mutual aid agreement with all Wise County school districts which will allow us to give or receive aid in emergency situations. All of the Wise County school districts and law enforcement agencies are meeting regularly throughout the school year to collaborate on our work to ensure safety for all students and staff.

We are also working with our employee benefits provider to offer additional health insurance plans to our employees next year. The District of Innovation (DOI) committee and the school board have both recently approved amendments to the DOI plan which will allow us to offer more health care options. We are working to have these new options in place for employees for the 2020-2021 school year; the goal is to offer employees more affordable health care options to consider.

This year is flying by, we look forward to seeing what our students and staff accomplish together this spring semester!