

Alvord ISD Family:

I have some highlights for you on the October 26, 2020 regular board meeting.

Principals Month – the campus principals and assistant principals were recognized. We are thankful for our admin team, thanks to the work of our campus administrators and staff this school year has gone as smoothly as possible despite the challenges we are all facing.

Facilities Update – The district will begin work on moving the right field softball fence back now that the pump jack behind the fence has been plugged. This project will involve moving the light pole back and correcting the field dimension issues caused by the pump jack.

Restriction of Remote Learning – the board approved restrictions of remote learning beginning November 10th. This information was sent out to everyone earlier this morning.

Revised Athletic Handbook: we are now testing students for nicotine as part of our random alcohol and drug testing program for students who participate in extra-curricular activities or park a vehicle in the student parking lot. We added nicotine to the list of substances we test for due to concerns about student vaping which is a problem. We know we have students who are vaping, which is a serious health concern.

We are one of only a few districts in the state that are testing students for nicotine at this time. To our knowledge no districts have enacted any consequences for a positive nicotine test other than to notify the parents. Our current student testing guidelines only allow for notification of parents when a student tests positive for nicotine, at this time we are not suspending them from participating in extra-curricular activities like we are for a positive drug test. That is something we will consider doing in the future.

Coach Smiley asked if the coaches can provide additional consequence for athletes who test positive for nicotine. These changes were approved by the board. All parents and students will also be notified and sign an updated copy of the athletic handbook before the changes are implemented.

The board approved the new **Level 3 Guardians** and approved the district **Emergency Operations Plan**.