## **Board of Education**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## August 4 Marks the Start of the 2022-23 School Year. School Board Bolsters Staff and Services in Preparation.

The impact of the pandemic has resulted in multiple challenges related to learning loss, mental health, and social emotional needs.

In response, the district has bolstered site staff and restructured the district-level support staff to address known and anticipated challenges more effectively. Full time assistant principals have been added to all 14 elementary schools. An additional assistant principal has been added to all 4 middle schools. Campus supervision has been increased. The Pupil Services department has added staff to support students, schools, and families related to child welfare and attendance.

Regarding COVID-19 safety practices, masking is optional in our schools based on three primary factors: One, improved conditions in Riverside County related to medically significant disease and hospitalization. Two, the high quality of our indoor air. And three, our multi-layered strategy to provide safe, successful, and full in-person instruction. The COVID Help Center will remain open to contact-trace and work closely with County public health officials to support schools and families.

An Office of School Safety has been established to focus on campus security and build safe and supportive environments using school safety best practices. Ms. Sandy Fielding has been named the Director.

Three new members of the Superintendent's Cabinet have joined the Alvord team. Mrs. Alisha Fogerty is the Chief Business Officer. Mr. Nick Hilton is the Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources. Dr. Francis Dizon is the Executive Director, Pupil Services.

ABOUT US: <u>Alvord Unified School District</u> serves the westernmost portion of the city of Riverside, as well as parts of the city of Corona and an unincorporated area of Riverside County. We serve about 17,180 students in fourteen K-5 elementary schools, four 6-8 middle schools, three comprehensive 9-12 high schools, and two alternative education centers.