

August 16, 2019

Good morning Alief Team Members,

I want to thank each and every one of you for a genuinely successful start to the 2019-20 school year. This is our third consecutive year that we have started school earlier than normal and I trust most of us have become accustomed to the “early” start. Or maybe I should say we have become accustomed to the early finish in May. Based on my campus visits, and more importantly, my conversations with several groups of four-year-old Pre-K students and some third grade students, we had a successful first few days of school. One Pre-K student told me he loved school so much he wanted to spend the night. Just a side note....if you want to hear the unfiltered truth about life, ask a four-year-old. They really do have life figured out and they are willing to share it...after they stop crying for their mom. ☺

I was extremely impressed with how organized our campuses were and by how professional our teachers, support staff and leaders conducted themselves throughout the week. Of course, I am not surprised at how well Alief staff members approach their jobs on a daily basis but it is gratifying to see it in action. You were prepared for this week and it showed. That is what professionals do, every day.

While each of us should never allow an accountability system to define our students, ourselves, our school or our district, I did want to make a couple of comments on the release of the Texas Accountability ratings yesterday. Teachers, leaders and support staff from across Alief ISD deserve a tremendous amount of credit for the amount of growth, progress and accomplishments our students demonstrated during the 2018/2019 school year. A few significant points I want to mention are:

- We increased our overall student performance score by 8 points-to an 85...I am confident we will grow to an A after this school year
- We had 18 schools at all levels grow their overall performance by 5 points or more
- We had 13 schools grow by over 8 points
- We had 9 schools grow by over 10 points
- We had 7 schools grow by 11 points or more
- We (our students) had a great year

My challenge to each of us is to keep this growth mindset each day and show up too work prepared to do three simple things: 1- have a good day (that same day), 2- help every student make progress (that same day) and 3- include problem solving, team work and communication skills for each student (that same day). To accomplish the second and third things, we must all be successful with the first one.

I really do hope you have approached each day as a day to have “good day” and enjoy your chosen work.

Take the weekend and find some life-balance. Go have fun and enjoy! That will help you have a great Monday.

Take care,



HD Chambers  
Superintendent