

June 26, 2023

Dear District 15 community,

As we come to the close of this academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect and thank you all for being part of our community that believes so strongly in our students and their academic success. In a year filled with transitions and changes, we came together, collaborated, and created action plans to meet the needs of all our students.

I accepted this position as your superintendent knowing that I had to earn your trust and demonstrate my commitment to center our students while practicing and modeling collaboration as well as shared decision making. Focusing on every child in our district allowed me to immerse myself in understanding your school communities and to prioritize your immediate needs. This allowed me to build a strong and dedicated team and continue to add and develop members who provide the varied support needed to your buildings. As with the end of every season, we assess what worked and what we can build upon by listening to the people who are most connected to the work.

Teachers and support staff, thank you for the dedication, patience, and resilience you showed this year. As we move forward, we will be learning with you and supporting you in finding the best way to educate our students. If we can reach our students, we can teach them!

Families, I am always in awe of the sacrifice and dedication you always manage to put forth regardless of adversities. My goal as your superintendent is to listen to your concerns and suggestions and incorporate them in my decision making when possible. My intent for your children, under our district care, is to see them blossom while finding their individual academic strengths and talents.

Students, you bring joy to us every day. Your futures have their foundations rooted here in District 15. Continue to strive for excellence and your own growth. We are here to support your educational journey and it is my mission to ensure that you get the best holistic education possible.

District 15 principals and assistant principals, you have had a year filled with adjustments and new initiatives. I salute your hard work and dedication. Your leadership and perseverance set the tone for your communities, and I am fortunate to work with you, an amazingly talented group of educators who always put children first.

This summer my wish for our entire community is for everyone to relax, rejuvenate, spend time having fun with family and loved ones, and prioritize your self-care. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Rafael T. Alvarez

Rafael T. Alvarez
District 15 Superintendent