

ALEDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Aledo ISD Board of Trustees,

October 1, 2010

On August 30, 2010 the Texas Education Agency announced that Aledo ISD has earned the state's highest rating for financial management for 2010. It is the 8th year of the state's financial rating system and the 8th "Superior Achievement" rating for Aledo ISD.

The Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (Schools FIRST system) was developed in response to Senate Bill 875 of the 76th Legislature in 1999. The financial health of every school district in Texas is evaluated as a part of this criteria system. The primary goal of Schools FIRST is to achieve quality performance in the management of school districts' financial resources. This is a significant goal due to the complexity of the Texas school finance system and current funding challenges facing the state, schools and communities.

The Schools FIRST accountability rating system assigns one of four financial ratings to Texas school districts based on 22 financial indicators. The possible ratings are "Superior Achievement", "Above-Standard Achievement", "Standard Achievement", and "Substandard Achievement". An additional rating of "Suspended – Data Quality" may be assigned to districts with serious data quality problems. Districts that receive the "Substandard Achievement" or "Suspended – Data Quality" ratings must file a corrective action plan with the Texas Education Agency. TEA will take into consideration a district's FIRST rating when assigning an accreditation status.

A public hearing to discuss the 2010 TEA financial rating will be held in conjunction with the regular board meeting on October 18, 2010.

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Sincerely,

Chris Whiddon

Chief Financial Officer

"A Past to Remember, A Future to Mold"