

October 11, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We wanted to update you on the ongoing work of the **Alum Rock School Consolidation Committee** as we address the district's need to streamline resources in response to a projected **\$20 million budget shortfall**. The committee has been meeting regularly to develop thoughtful and thorough criteria for determining the best path forward, always with the goal of ensuring the success of our students and community.

Meeting Highlights:

- **October 8, 2024:** Committee members continued to refine these criteria and began exploring various scenarios for consolidation. They discussed the importance of preserving critical district programs, ensuring operational capacity, and understanding how **building costs** affect decisions. The committee also discussed logistical considerations like staffing and facility upgrades.
- **October 9, 2024:** The committee reviewed several scenarios for potential consolidations and began prioritizing specific schools based on the established criteria. The conversations focused on identifying the most sustainable and student-centered options, with continued attention to minimizing the impact on families and staff.

Upcoming Parent Town Hall Meetings:

We know that many of you have questions, and we want to ensure that the community remains involved and informed throughout this process. To provide you with more information and hear your input, we invite you to attend one of our upcoming **Parent Town Hall Meetings**:

- **Date/Time:** October 17, 2024 6-7pm
Location: Russo McEntee
- **Date/Time:** October 22, 2024 6-7pm
Location: Zoom

These meetings will give you the opportunity to learn more about the process and ask any questions you may have. We encourage you to attend to stay informed and share your thoughts with district leadership.

Other Upcoming Meetings:

- **October 16** – Prioritization (Note: this meeting was recently added to the Advisory Committee’s schedule in order to allow more time for discussion prior to making recommendations)
- **October 30** – Committee recommendations
- **November 14** – Public hearing
- **November 21** – Board information session
- **December 2** – Board action

Stay Informed:

For the latest updates and frequently asked questions (FAQs) about the **School Consolidation Process**, please visit the district's website at <https://www.arusd.org/district/school-consolidation>. This page is regularly updated to keep you informed on the committee’s progress and to address any concerns you may have.

We appreciate your continued support and engagement as we work through this process together. Our goal is to ensure that every decision made will help provide the best possible resources for all students across the district.

Sincerely,

Germán Cerda
Superintendent
Alum Rock Union School District