Good afternoon Alcott School Community,

This first week back was a short one but your efforts demonstrate our Alcott vision around positivity and collaboration.  Our school community benefits from who we are and what we stand for (where relationships matter and positivity is contagious).  Thank you for your continued support and respect for each other and our Alcott Staff.

**Pics of the Week**!  **1.) Alcott Staff Video:  Celebrating at our staff meeting**“Toast to the New Year”.**2.) Safety First…**even our students want to wear our “cool neon” safety vests**.**Made my day to see one of our students coming to school in a safety vest.  Refer to our social media to view the pictures. Instagram:  **principalslewis**and Twitter:  **@MrLewisSD**

**My goals remain focused on our TEAM and this reminder from the Harvard Business Review is something I want us to focus on: “**For organizations seeking to become more adaptive and innovative, change is often the most challenging part of the transformation.  Innovation demands new behaviors from leaders and employees that are often antithetical to corporate cultures.  But culture change can’t be achieved through a top-down mandate. It lives in the collective hearts and habits of people and their shared perception of “how things are done around here”.  Someone with authority can demand compliance, but they can’t dictate optimism, trust, conviction, or creativity.”  UBUNTU.  Our Alcott Families are part of this team and I ask you to believe in our vision and be part of this movement.  Our potential is greater when we all believe and support this goal!

**Parking Lot Update:**This week I conducted our 2nd of 4 community meetings with our families to discuss the safety issues I have outlined that are of great concern to me.  I understand how difficult these discussions have been and appreciate your understanding as we determine how best to serve our families, while keeping the safety of our students, staff and community our top priority.  Next steps will include SDPD and City Officials to research suggestions that were brought up at our last meeting.  I will provide a date and agenda for our next meeting soon.  Please acknowledge that this has not been an easy decision for me and I am not taking this lightly.  I am gathering information, reviewing parent suggestions and listening to your voices.  Thank you for your patience and understanding.

**Next Wednesday, January 10, Clairemont High is hosting its first Student Showcase** from 5:30-7:30 pm! This is an opportunity for our community to see the great work being done by students in the many great programs at Clairemont! This event will be open house style (come when you can and stay as long as you can).  The event will include food trucks and performances from the CHS Dance and Band Members.

**On Thursday, January 11, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. you are welcome to join me** and all Clairemont Elementary Principals, Marston Middle School Principal, Clairemont High School Principal and Area Superintendents for our next **Clairemont Community Schools Meeting.**This is your opportunity to hear how our Clairemont Cluster is attempting to focus our efforts around our community and our needs.  zoom: [https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/4666015848](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/Ewp-_VOXwW1nAgAIv1lvEA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRnedi4P0QsaHR0cHM6Ly9zYW5kaWVnb3VuaWZpZWQuem9vbS51cy9qLzQ2NjYwMTU4NDhXB3NjaG9vbG1CCmWUOKWYZbY8E5tSEm1wdWxpZG8xQHNhbmRpLm5ldFgEAAAAAQ~~)

**Our latest attendance report has dropped us to the 6th ranked school in our Clairemont cluster** which will require additional steps that I will be working on with district assigned staff.  Counselor Reinhardt will be involved in this process which will include greater parent outreach.  We need your assistance in ensuring that your children attend school daily.  Our funding is based on our daily attendanace and I appreciate your support.

You are all welcome to attend **next Tuesday's School Site Council Meeting on zoom from 5:30-6:30**.  I will be reviewing our 2024-25 Budget and Staffing Forecast and its impact on Alcott.  Join Zoom Meeting
[https://sandiegounified.zoom.us/j/85269760437](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/o01Gjws4SssT8rG_jWbbJA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRnedi4P0QtaHR0cHM6Ly9zYW5kaWVnb3VuaWZpZWQuem9vbS51cy9qLzg1MjY5NzYwNDM3VwdzY2hvb2xtQgpllDilmGW2PBObUhJtcHVsaWRvMUBzYW5kaS5uZXRYBAAAAAE~)

**Enjoy your Weekend:  UBUNTU!**Continue to take care of yourselves and your colleagues:  Fill someone’s Bucket Today.

Principal Lewis