From: Aledo ISD Communications < Communications@aledoisd.org >

**Date:** April 24, 2025 at 5:02:25 PM CDT **Subject: Statement from Aledo ISD** 

**Reply-To:** Aledo ISD Communications < <a href="mailto:communications@aledoisd.org">communications@aledoisd.org</a>>

## April 24, 2025

Aledo ISD has become aware of recent public comments about the district's response to a social media/artificial intelligence (AI) incident involving a group of Aledo High School students that occurred over a year and a half ago. Given these public statements, the district feels that it's important to provide factual, straightforward information with our community.

In October 2023, a now-former Aledo High School student, while off campus, created nude images of classmates using artificial intelligence and distributed them to students through fake Snapchat aliases using students' personal Snapchat accounts on their phones. Aledo ISD's top priority is the safety and well-being of our students, and the district immediately recognized the seriousness of this incident and took action; we regret the profound impact it had and will have on the student victims, their families, and their friends.

The following timeline explains the district's response to this incident:

- On Sunday, October 1, 2023, parents of an Aledo High School student made a report to the Parker County Sheriff's Office about the existence of some Al images.
- When AHS administrators were notified of the concerns on Monday, October 2, 2023, they immediately began an investigation to determine the identity of any victims and of the person who created and/or shared the images.
- Ultimately, the campus and district completed 3 separate investigations:
  - o a discipline investigation;
  - o a Title IX sexual harassment investigation;
  - o a bullying investigation.
- The discipline investigation resulted in the identification of the student offender and multiple student victims; AHS administrators and Aledo ISD police shared the identity of the students involved with the PCSO for its investigation and criminal prosecution. As soon as AHS administrators identified the offender, he was removed from AHS immediately and was placed at the district's disciplinary alternative education placement (DAEP).
- AHS administrators communicated with all victims and their parents, shared the findings and the
  Title IX and bullying investigation reports with the parents, and offered the victims protective
  measures.
- The district followed both federal and state law in response to the incident, and punished the offender to the full extent permitted under the law by removing him from AHS and placing him in DAEP. It has been suggested that the district should have permanently expelled the offender, but

- that was not and still is not an option under state law. However, it is important to note that the offender never returned to AHS.
- Following this incident, Aledo ISD updated the Student Code of Conduct to more explicitly address
  the inappropriate use of Al by our students. The Texas Education Code sets out the offenses for
  which a student may be expelled. School districts may only expel students for those offenses
  authorized in the Texas Education Code. The Texas Education Code did not and does not permit a
  school district to expel a student for the misconduct that occurred in this situation. See Tex. Educ.
  Code § 37.007.

The district is grateful that the administration at AHS and local law enforcement swiftly and effectively investigated this incident, and fully supports changes in federal and state law that would better address uses of AI that harm children and supports parent and student education about the dangers of AI.