



ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
Dr. Nicolas D. Ferguson

Superintendent, Alvord Unified School District

If the term Educational Renaissance Man were ever coined, it would describe Dr. Nicolas Ferguson. A veteran educator, in his 44 years in the K-12 world, Ferguson has served as a classified employee, an elementary and secondary school teacher, a secondary counselor and administrator, business manager, assistant superintendent, deputy superintendent and superintendent.

He is invested in the Riverside County school system, having attended Riverside County schools since third grade. He traces his success back to Riverside City College and the RCCD Foundation. "Without the scholarship opportunities I was granted, I would not have been able to afford college."

Ferguson is well known in the Inland Empire. In 2002 he led the Moreno Valley Unified School District. Later he spent two years as an associate superintendent for the Riverside County Office of Education and as a consultant for several local school districts. Most recently, he again took the superintendent reins, this time for Alvord Unified School District.

Ferguson received his associate's degree from Riverside City College; a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Cal Poly, Pomona; and a master's degree in Education Leadership and a doctorate degree in School Business and Personal Services from the University of Southern California.

Ferguson was the chair of the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Action Committee; a member of ACCESS to the Future, a business community and school partnership for Career Technical Education; a member of the RCC Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee; and serves as a member of Completion Counts, communities-in-learning program funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to increase college-going and college-completion rates. He also served as president of Friends of Forensics for three years, and still remains a member. Ferguson is an adjunct professor at California State University, San Bernardino.