

Live Learn Lead
ALDO LEOPOLD CHARTER SCHOOL
WEEKLY UPDATE

October 9, 2019
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<http://www.aldocs.org/>
www.facebook.com/aldoleopoldhs

We shall never achieve harmony with the land, any more than we shall achieve absolute justice or liberty for people. In these higher aspirations, the important thing is not to achieve but to strive.
-Aldo Leopold

News for all

The suits

The **Public Education Department** interviewed some of your kids during their visit here last week for our charter renewal, and the kids earned high praise for being polite and asking good questions. The next step in this charter renewal process will come on November 12 in the form of a letter from the **PED with feedback** for us to respond to at the **December hearing in Santa Fe** in front of the Public Education Commission. This hearing should last about an hour and a half. If you are interested in testifying in support of renewing our charter, please contact Mr. Sherwood and he can give you more details.

Nemo needs a home

You know that fish tank, filter, and feeder that is taking up space in your garage? The junior science class needs that stuff! They are working with the Forest Service to do research on native fish species. Contact Maddy Alfero to arrange pick up: malfero@aldocs.org.

Committees

Tue., Oct. 84:30pm.....Risk management.....Jim's room @ the HS

Thu., Oct. 105:30pmGoverning Council ...Maia's room @ the MS

Calendar

Oct. 10.....Leadership Enhancement Workshop - High School

Oct. 11.....In-service - *No Students*

Oct. 14 - 18.....*Fall Break!!!*

Oct. 25.....Student-Led Conferences—*All students*



Field trip

The 8th grade language arts and social studies class took advantage of the Pulitzer Prize winning photography exhibit at the McCray Gallery to give students a current picture (pun intended, this is a language arts class) of why and how people leave their home country to come to the United States. Students studied *The Beast* before viewing the exhibit, considered the choice of narrative, and then combined these with their research about why people migrated to the colonies in the 17th and 18th

centuries to understand the connection between past and current migrants.

The hidden cost of journaling



Backpacking

The tents have been aired out and put away, the sleeping bags have been washed and stuffed, the backpacks have been returned to storage, and the high school students and staff are left to reflect on why we do this, what was gained this time, what went well, what to do differently next time, and where to go next year. Here are some photos from their grand adventure.



Watershed Science



Last Thursday, **7th and 8th graders** got to hang out with **Rich Schrader from River Source**. “River Source supports people living as good stewards of their watersheds by providing science and policy education, planning, monitoring, and ecological restoration services throughout New Mexico.” Read more about River Source [here](#). Rich talked to the students about watershed science and took the students on a walkabout around the school to look for an erosion control project that could be done here at Aldo Middle School. Students had amazing questions and answers for Rich. He said, “I told my colleague - these students knocked my socks off! I can’t believe these 7th and 8th graders asking these high school and college level questions!” 7th graders continued their watershed science education on Friday by going out with Rich and Carlos (also from River Source) to the Iron Bridge at the Gila River where they joined the high school Ecomonitors to do some water quality monitoring through chemistry and biology. They also used a drone to collect data. If you look closely at the photo, you might see us! In the afternoon, 7th graders went fishing at Bill Evans Lake. Big thanks to Rich and Carlos!

High School

The journey of figuring out who you are and who you want to be

A group of motivated high school students will be participating in the Leadership Enhancement Workshop Thursday, October 10 in Gila next to the river. Students and teachers will leave from the school at 4:00 and will return at 11:45pm. Pete has put this voluntary ceremony together for students for several years in a row to give students a chance to “focus on their capacity to endure.” For more detailed information see the website and [letters and permission ships](#).

No rest for the weary

Even though the **middle school is off on Friday** and the **Community Orientation class is not happening**, *YCC and Internships are still running*. Be sure to show up at your usual place and time.

Middle School

And then sometimes it's the BIG 6

Middle school students get a grade for being prepared on Fridays because we want students to learn how to have what they need so that they can be engaged in what they are doing and not distracted by hunger, thirst, heat, or cold. This past Friday with a 60% chance of rain in the forecast we told them over and over for days before to be sure to bring a raincoat or poncho for this possibly rainy day. We were really surprised (but also, kind of not really) by the number of students who needed a loaner poncho. PLEASE, parents, be sure to check the forecast on Fridays so you can help your child to be prepared for what the day might bring, so that they don't end up living in your basement, spare room, or garage until they are 33.

If you want to get inside their brains

After the Weekly Update elective started, it became clear that what parents *need/want* to know about the school, is very different from what the students *need/want* to know (because, honestly, they have no idea *why* parents want to know what they want to know). So, some of these students brainstorm every Monday about what the middle school students would want to know, or need to be reminded about, or are talking about (nothing gossipy allowed), and have created a Weekly Update that is for middle school students! Here is this week's [Middle School Weekly Update](#).

