



Weekly Update

Aldo Leopold Charter School

(Brought to you by the Middle School Journalism Class)

Special edition

2 Updates for the Price of 1!

February 12 and 19, 2018

(575) 538-2547

<http://www.aldocs.org/>

www.facebook.com/aldoleopoldhs/

News for all

So we have really tried to get the Update to you by Monday afternoon, but lately that hasn't worked out. So from now on, please expect the Update on Tuesday afternoons. If at first you don't succeed, change the deadline.

Lunch menu

- Tues 2/13** Spaghetti bolognaise, roasted veggies, mixed salad, and fruit
- Wed 2/14** Chicken noodle soup, cheesy bread, lentils, garden salad, and fruit
- Thurs 2/15** **High school only. (Middle school student-led conferences)**
Veggie enchiladas, steamed rice, chopped veggie salad, and fruit
- Fri 2/16** **No lunch (or school)--student led conferences**
- Mon 2/19** **No lunch (or school)--Presidents' day**
- Tues 2/20** **No lunch (or school)--staff in service day**
- Wed 2/21** Turkey sausages, roast potatoes, steamed peas, WG organic bread
garden salad, and fruit
- Thurs 2/22** Bean and cheese tacos, steamed quinoa, shredded veggie tray, and
fruit
- Fri 2/23** **No one is here to feed, so no lunch**
- Mon 2/26** Roast chicken, buttered noodles, green beans, garden salad, fruit

S.O.S!

The **NM legislature** is in session. This can be a scary time for schools because our future relies on state funding and there is always a piece of legislation that keeps us up at night. This year is no different and **we really need you to contact our local senator Howie Morales at 505-986-4863**. This is what is going on: We get \$608,000 a year from special funding aimed at helping small schools cope with all the state-required reporting and regulatory compliance. On page 163 of the current budget bill (HB 2), which has passed the House and awaits a vote on the Senate floor, is language that appears to *eliminate* this sort of funding for small charter schools. You heard that right: if this budget bill is not amended before it gains legislative approval and is signed as-is by the Governor, we will lose \$608,000. That is one-third of our entire operating budget!

We say “appears to” eliminate this funding because the language is very poorly written. Or maybe it’s very sneakily written – it’s hard to know whether it was done on purpose or not! The provision in question doesn’t mention charter schools by that name – instead, it refers to “A separate school established to provide an educational program at a specific grade level different from the primary educational program of the school district in which the school is located, including ...a school to which a student must apply for admission or in which student placement is determined by criteria other than the geographic location of the student’s residence...” It sure *sounds* like they are referring to charter schools, but for some reason they did not want to come out and *say* charter schools. Perhaps they did not want us to notice this provision? In any case, that is just what happened, and neither we nor our colleagues in the charter school movement realized what was happening until last weekend.

The loss of this funding would endanger our existence. We need you taxpayers and voters to contact Senator Morales and ask him to amend this part of the budget on the Senate floor. Such a huge change in state educational policy should not be buried in the budget bill, and it deserves full hearings on its own merits so the Legislature can make an informed policy decision. PLEASE call **Senator Morales at 505-986-4863**.

There have been 45 of them

In honor of the present and the past presidents we will not have school on **Monday, February 19**. You also may know it's celebrated in honor of George Washington's birthday, February 22, 1732. So you better wish him a happy 286th birthday!

To be at school or not to be at school

Mon Feb. 12=School for **all** students

Tues Feb. 13=School for **all** students

Wed Feb. 14=School for **all** students

(O.K., here's where it gets confusing)

Thur Feb.15=School for HS/No School for MS – SLCs

Fri Feb. 16=HS and MS Student Led Conferences/ YCC and Internship

Mon Feb. 19=No School for HS or MS or Staff (!) Presidents' Day

Tues Feb. 20=No School for HS or MS/Staff-In-Service Training Day

Count your tribe

The 9th grade CO class is in Florence, AZ participating in the primitive skills workshop known as Winter Count. These kids will return Tuesday night very late, dirty, with new skills, and ideas about living like the natives.

Flu Activity Still Rising in New Mexico

Seasonal flu activity remains high in both our state and nationwide

From, **David Morgan, Public Information Officer, NM Public Health Division Southwest Region**

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) reports the number of flu-related illnesses and deaths continue to increase across New Mexico.

- NMDOH reports 28 flu-related deaths and 100 pneumonia related deaths in adults so far in the 2017-2018 flu season.
- Flu-related hospitalizations, especially in those aged 65 and older, continue to steadily increase.
- Since October, the department has investigated 27-flu outbreaks in long-term care facilities, a number that is already more than the number of outbreaks investigated the entire 2016-2017 flu season.

Influenza vaccine provides protection from several strains of flu, including Influenza B – a strain of flu that is now being more frequently reported across the United States.

The advice on how to avoid getting the flu remains the same: frequently wash your hands, cover mouth when you cough or sneeze, and – whenever possible - stay home from work, school, travel, shopping, social events, and public gatherings when you're sick. What may be a mild case of flu for you may be deadly if passed on to someone else. By preventing yourself from getting the flu, you are also protecting people around you, including those who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness.

New Mexicans sick with flu (or flu-like symptoms) in the following high-risk categories should receive antiviral medications as soon as possible:

- [Pregnant women](#) (any trimester) and up to two weeks postpartum
- [Children younger than 5](#) years, but especially children younger than 2 years old

- [People age 65 years and older](#)
- People of any age with [chronic medical conditions](#) like asthma, diabetes, and lung or heart disease and those with immunosuppression from medication or disease
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including healthcare personnel and caregivers of babies younger than 6 months
- American Indians and Alaskan Natives
- People who are morbidly obese

NMDOH public health offices statewide continue to offer flu vaccinations while supplies last for people without insurance or who are otherwise not able to get vaccinated. For locations nearest you, visit <https://nmhealth.org/>. Those with Medicaid or other insurance who go to public health offices are asked to bring their insurance card.

Additional helpful information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm> and https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/coughing_sneezing.html.

Valentine’s Day Facts!

- Approximately *150 million* Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas.
- Richard Cadbury from the Cadbury chocolates family is responsible for the earliest box of Valentine’s day chocolates. In 1868, he gave chocolates to his beloved in a heart-shaped box. He apparently also made the boxes more unique by using his own paintings to decorate the box lid.

Tell us how you *really* feel

It is that time of year again when we ask you to take a few moments out of your day to answer questions on the Parent Satisfaction Survey. Getting a high percentage of responses on this survey is one of our charter goals, so please, click on this [link](#) and tell us what you think!

Committees: We need a few good parents!

Risk Mgmt	Tues 2/13.....	4:40 p.m.	Jim’s room
Policy	Wed 2/28.....	8:40 a.m.	Mr. Sherwood's office
SHAC	Wed 3/7	4:30 p.m.	Jim's room
GC.....	Wed 3/7	5:30 p.m.	Ms. Chaney’s room

SHAC= School Health Advisory Council

GC= Governing Council

Your child has somethings to tell you

On **February 15 and 16** we will be having Student-Led Conferences. **Middle school conferences** will be held **both days**, while the **high school conferences** will be **Friday only**. Cathie has scheduled almost all the middle school conferences (minus a few and you know who you are, so give her a call). High school parents, if you haven't scheduled a conference with your child's advisor, call Cathie today to do so.

Reading is fundamental

Aldo's first book fair is scheduled for April 9-13. There are a lot of tasks that need to be taken care of before, during, and after the fair. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the ALCS librarian, Catalina Claussen at cclaussen@aldocs.org. And thank you for your support!

High school

Internships/YCC

High School students, be sure to coordinate with your mentors or crew supervisors about your upcoming Student Led Conference on **Feb. 16th**. *You must make your own arrangements to leave the job site and return to it* after your conference. Another opportunity to become more responsible. Yay!

Free-ish money

The **Homer and Ruth Hamby Family Foundation scholarship is now open**. This scholarship is for up to **\$3250 per semester and renewable for up to 4 years**. (That is BIG money, people!) Essay and documentation of financial need (ie tax return info) is required. Applications are available from Cheryl and the **application deadline is March 15**.

Each year, the **Silver City Rotary Club** offers **two \$1,500 college scholarships** to qualified graduating seniors from Grant County high schools. The scholarship application is now available online by going to the [Rotary Club website](http://www.silvercityrotary.org) at www.silvercityrotary.org and clicking on the College Scholarship Application link on the home page. This year's application deadline is March 15, 2018. By that time, not only the online application but also all supporting materials must have been submitted to the club.

Questions about or requests for help with the application process should be directed to Peter Falley at (575) 388-2004

One-day NM History Class trip

The junior and senior **New Mexico History class day trip** has been moved to **March 20**. It was originally scheduled for February 22, but the star of our show, Judge Brack of the U.S. District Court, will be enjoying some much-needed time off till March 20.

Where are you at?

There will be no **Community Orientation** on **Friday, February 16** because of Student-Led Conferences. The following **Friday, February 23**, CO will take the 8th graders with them to Whiskey Creek where they will be doing some watershed restoration, checker-board mapping & wild-crafting. **BIG 5: healthy lunch and snacks, wide brimmed hat, 2 water bottles, appropriate shoes, journal and pencil.**

Middle school

TGIF

There is no school on **Friday, February 16** so the middle school will not be going on any grand adventure. However, on **Friday February 23** we will be on the road again. The 8th graders will be with the CO class (see above) and the **6th and 7th graders** will be with Rich and Carlos from **Riversource**. We will begin the day at the **Iron Bridge** in Cliff learning about streamflow and stream health. After lunch we will be go to **Bill Evans Lake** for some fishing (you should probably have a plan B for dinner, just in case).

Jack, Josiah, Charla, Colin, Ella, Cedar, and Drew with the Buffalo Soldier @ Ft. Bayard



Community Events

Let's go to the movies!

-Silco Theater-

Black Panther

PG-13

February 15-March 8

Thursday 15 = 7:00 pm

Friday-Saturday 16-3 = 4:00pm + 7:30pm

Sunday 4 = 1:00pm

Monday-Thursday 5-8=4:00pm + 7:30pm

Hostiles

R

Friday 9-Thursday 13

Friday - Monday 9=12 + 7:00pm

Tuesday - Thursday 13-15=4:00 pm

Duration: 2 hours 15m

<http://www.thesilco.com/>

-Light Hall Theater-

Coco

PG

February 9 - 11

February 16-17 = 7:00 pm

February 18 = 2:00pm

Duration: 2 hours 10m

<http://movies.wnmu.edu/?lang=en>