



Weekly Update

January 8, 2018

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News for All

Welcome back for the Spring Semester! The Spring semester is very busy. The **high school** will be doing a lot of traveling (incentive trip, United World College, Sophomore Border Awareness trip, Winter Count, NM History trip, Leadership Enhancement Workshop, Ninth grade Cosmic Campout, and Senior trip to Moab). In addition to all of that, the high school students also have end of the year projects (you better get your teenager on path of good food and sleep to keep up with it all).

The **middle school** will be doing some adjusting:

Wednesday adventures will be on *Fridays*, Ms. Aversa will be teaching 7th grade LA, Mr. Ramirez will be taking over for Deb as the Internship Coordinator, and Mr. Cantrell will be teaching *all* the 6th graders. There is also a trip for the 6th and 7th graders to the Climate Change Conference in Las Cruces on January 15, MLK day, and an all middle school campout at City of Rocks in March. As if that isn't enough all students in all grades have the PARCC and MAPS tests (and 7th and 11th graders take the SBA), as well as finals. It sounds like a lot, but we do it every year, so it must be possible.

Lunch

Because the Update comes out on Monday (most of the time), the lunch menu is for Tuesday through the following Monday.

Tues 1/9 ---- Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese Sandwich Steamed Carrots, mixed salad, and fruit

Wed 1/10 --- Cheese quesadillas, black beans, shredded veggie salad, and fruit

Thur 1/11 --- Vegetable lasagna, whole grain rolls, steamed veggies, chef's salad, and fruit

Fri 1/12----- **NO LUNCH FOR ANYONE (MS ADVENTURES, HS CO AND INTERNSHIPS)**

Mon 1/15---- Cowboy chili, corn bread, green salad, and fruit.

Congrats to the Students of Month!

So every month the staff picks two students, one from the high school and one from the middle school, who have stood out to us. This month the high school staff chose junior **Izabela Chase** and the middle school staff picked seventh grader **Michael Marriage**. Izabella has been a stand out student from the moment she came to Aldo as a 9th grader. She embraces opportunities, is an academic star, and radiates a pleasant demeanor, Michael always shows a willingness to give his best effort despite the difficulty of material and requirements. He actively participates in class and during experiential ed. trips. Plus, he is so kind and helpful.

Here's hoping you don't get sick

From Jim McIntosh, school nurse:

Some of you may be wondering what the year has in store for you if you were hammered by the influenza virus over Winter Break. The Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) is reporting that **the 2017-18 American flu season is shaping up to be a nasty one**, with epidemiologists predicting a higher number of cases here after Australians (whose flu season precedes ours) logged in 2 ½ times more cases of influenza than they did last year. There's no reason to be alarmed, of course—but since it looks like more of us than usual may be laid up by the flu this season, click on [this information sheet from the CDC](#). It offers pretty standard stuff, but it's worth mentioning that two of the most effective ways **to limit the spread of the flu virus is to wash your hands & sneeze into your elbow**. (The CDC also recommends receiving a flu vaccine; even though they advise people to receive the vax in late October,

it can still prove effective if administered now, since there's still plenty of flu season left to endure. The vaccine usually takes two weeks to become fully effective.)

Flu sufferers usually experience fever & body aches, which most cold sufferers do not. If you do spike a fever, it's best to **stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever subsides, in order to keep from infecting others.** If you do find yourself laid low with the flu, be sure to keep yourself hydrated.



The boys' bathroom near the kitchen has been turned into a gender neutral bathroom. As a school community we are committed to supporting everyone and it came to our attention that we were neglecting the needs of some of our students. This single-user bathroom is open to ALL students and staff.

Committee meetings

Committees are a great way to get in your required parent volunteer hours. Most committees meet just once a month for about an hour and a half. These committees work on acquiring facilities, planning parent events, suggest policy, monitor and work toward a healthy school community, discuss the goals of curriculum, and talk about the budget. Consider giving a bit of your time each month-it really does take a village.

Risk Mgmt	Tues 1/9	4:30 p.m.	Jim's room
GC.....	Thurs 1/11	5:30 p.m.	Ms. Chaney's room
Policy	Wed 1/31.....	8:40 a.m.	Mr. Sherwood's office
SAC	Thurs 2/1	5:00 p.m.	Mr. Sherwood's office
SHAC	Wed 2/7	4:30 p.m.	Jim's room

GC=Governing Council

SAC=School Advisory Council

SHAC=School Health Advisory Council

Snow delays

It just seems silly to even bring this up, but on the occasion when it snows here, school is usually delayed or canceled. If this happens we will notify parents and students with an email and/or text. Please be sure the school has up to date contacts for you and then when a few flakes fall, please check your phone or email to see if your child is expected at school that day.

From the Business Manager Harry Browne:

Your friendly neighborhood collections agent will be sending out notices next week regarding outstanding activities fees. Recently, fee payments have been very timely – we've received 96% of fees owed from our last three high school trips, for example. But we started off the year quite poorly, unfortunately, which means a large number of families will be receiving reminders from me. Only 34 out of 91 high school students who went backpacking this fall have paid their fees, and over \$4,000 in fees are outstanding from the prior school year.

As I hope all of you know, these trips are essential to our experiential approach to education, which helps students connect classroom learning to the world outside of school. We take these trips on shoestring budgets, thanks to a staff that is very generous with the length of their work weeks. Our barebones trip fees only cover the food we purchase and prepare, and for those who cannot afford that food, subsidies are available for half the fee.

So please, when you receive your balance-due notice, send or bring payment in to the front office as soon as you are able. We are happy to work with you on a payment plan, if that is necessary.

CO+MS=Combo Plate

Starting this semester, the high school **Community Orientation class and the Middle School** will combine on some Fridays. This Friday, we will spend some time at **Old James Stadium** doing team building games, before we walk down to the **Big Ditch** to do some clean up, data collection, and trail work. Be sure your child has their **BIG 5-wide brimmed hat, 2 bottles of water, journal and pencil, sturdy shoes, and healthy lunch and snacks.**

High School

YCC/Internships

A new year means it's time for all sophomores, juniors and seniors to sign up for your interview with the internship coordinator. The point of the interview is for the internship coordinator to find out what students want to do. If your child has an idea of what they want to do, but they don't know who in town can teach them this, Deb (retiring soon) and Guy (taking over for Deb) can help. To sign up an interview, go to Deb and Guy's door. The sooner you sign up for your interview, the better chance you will have of getting your first choice, be it at an internship or on a YCC crew. If you do not have your contract handed in before Friday the 12th, you must come to school on Friday (yes, the 12th) and attend an interview and work on your contract.

The incentive trip has been postponed until February. **This means that Friday January 19th is the first day of internships and YCC.**

January 25th is the last day you can turn in your contract for either YCC or internships without losing 10% of your 3rd quarter grade. Have a great new year and a great internship.

Incentive trip that doesn't include skiing

Since there is no snow at Sunrise Ski Area, the high school student council is working on *another* trip for students who qualify. Much about this trip is still up in the air, now that skiing isn't happening, so information will be forthcoming.

Middle School

Fridays the new Wednesdays

See the above headline CO+MS=Combo Plate.

Here we come to save the daaayyy!

After much work the **6th and 7th graders** will be traveling to the **New Mexico Climate Champions Summit in Las Cruces on Monday, January 15** to present their ideas about what can be done help the planet. There will be a letter going home later this week with all the details.

