



Weekly Update

October 2, 2017

(575) 538-2547

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News for all

Backpacking

The backpack trips are over for another year. 9th grader Indigo Crockett wrote this to give us a bird's eye view of why we go backpacking.

In modern time only things like old books and movies are considered history, but in order to really read the past you have to go farther than that and open the earth like an old book. When one enters the wilderness they can enter a history much deeper, farther back. This concept is rarely taught but, in Aldo it's how we learn. When we left for this backpacking trip we're not only learning how to set up tents or identify a wild food. We were learning to read surroundings, looking at layers in rocks, rings of a tree, bones of a coyote, and those are only some examples. A mix of standard education and wilderness training is the most neuro-profitable design for schools today and I just happen to go to one that uses that.

Lunch

Monday, Oct. 2: Cowboy Chili, Corn Bread, Garden Salad and Fruit

Tuesday, Oct. 3: Hot Dog on a Bun, Macaroni and Cheese, Veggie Sticks, Green Salad and Fruit

Wednesday, Oct. 4 (High School Only): Chicken Fajitas, Black Beans, Chopped Veggie Salad and Fruit

Thursday, Oct. 5: Vegetable Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Steamed Carrots, Mixed Salad, Fruit

Friday, Oct. 6 (Middle School Only): Quiche, French Fries, Caesar Salad and Fruit.

One way to give back

Committees are hard to commit to and as a part of Aldo, they are a new concept for many parents. Our school is small, and to accomplish all that we are required by the state to do, we have volunteer committees. This week two of our committees will be meeting. If you have been curious about committee work, we encourage you to sit in on as many committee meetings you can stand. This week you have two fabulous options: The **School Health Advisory Council** and the **Student Activities Council**. **SHAC** and **SAC** sound a lot alike but they are very different. **SHAC** is charged with the task of keeping an eye on the health of our school community. We follow the guidelines of the school's wellness policy to determine where we need to devote our attention. These things include the food we serve, the physical activities we do, and our health classes. It is not just our school populations physical health that concerns us. Every year, all students take the Behavioral Risk Survey. This anonymous survey asks students about their lifestyle choices, including sex, drugs and rock 'n roll. When the results are compiled **SHAC** throws an evening of food and talk to let you in on what is going on for our kids. It would mean a lot to our emotional health if you joined us for that!

The **School Advisory Council** – known as **SAC**, is the place to bring your ideas, suggestions, or general concerns. We are a group of both school staff and parents. We work on issues like the strategic plan, parent and community involvement, and communications. (Did you take the survey we put out? It's not too late! Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6YP3N8V>)

Our most important job is to serve as a way for parents and the community to let the school know how we are doing, both what we are doing well, and what we need to pay more attention to. We always provide the first part of the meeting for community input. We meet the 1st Thursday of the month – our next meeting is Thursday, October 5 in Mr. Sherwood's office. Please join us to comment or just observe!

SHAC.....Wed. Oct. 4.....4:30-5:45pm.....Jim's room
SAC.....Thur. Oct. 5..... 5:00-6:30pm.....Mr. Sherwood's office
Risk mgmt.....Tue. Oct. 10..... 4:30-6:00pm.....Jim's room.
GC..... Tue. Oct. 12..... 5:30-8:30pm.....Ms. Chaney's room
(abbreviations: **SHAC**=School Health Advisory Council; **SAC**=School Advisory Council; **GC**=Governing Council)

It just feels like torture

On **October 27th Student Led Conference** will happen. Student Led Conferences are where your children show their grades to you and tell you why they have those grades. This is not to scare the students; their teacher will be there to help them while they are presenting. The conferences will be **by appointment**. We will let you know when it is time to call Cathie to schedule your conference. For an example of what this looks like click [here](#). The point of this is for the student to take responsibility for their school work, to participate more in their learning, and to give parents a way to get involved in their child's learning. We hope to see you there!

High School

C.O.

This week the newest Aldonians of the high school are off to Neverland (just kidding, not really) but they are going to be working on their student design projects on sustainable community economy. Later in the day, they will travel to the local community radio station, KURU, to have the option of recording their journals. After that, they will continue mapping those trees that need to be mapped. Gee that sounds like a fun day!

PSAT

This comprehensive assessment test measures college and career readiness and gives the students the tools to plan for the future to go to college. **All 10th graders** will be taking the test during school on **Wednesday, October 11**. The cost is freeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee for the 10th graders. But the 11th graders have to pay the price... \$16 to take the test.

Friday is a Different Day!

This coming **Friday, October 6** several **YCC crews** will have unusual work schedules because their supervisors will be taking Suburban driving lessons in the morning. Please look over the different schedule for your YCC group this Friday.

Eco Monitors:

Arrive at school at 11:00 am.

Around 2:00 pm they will be taken by a certified Suburban driver to the Silva Creek Botanical Garden to help set up for the workshop led by Steve Cary on "How to Tag Butterflies."

Garden:

8:45-12:00 crew members will be working at the Guadalupe Montessori Garden. If your child is on this crew, please make sure to drop her/him off at GMS.

After lunch they will get picked up by a certified Suburban driver and taken to the school for work there.

Water Harvesting:

8:30-12:00 crew members will be working at the school.

Around 12:30 a newly certified Suburban driver will take crew members to various ALCS YCC sites to install signs.

Community Interns:

Monday, October 9 you must hand in the hours you've worked for the first quarter (signed by your mentor). If you miss this deadline your quarter grade will be reduced by 10%.

Middle School**Walkie-Taiko**

This Wednesday the middle school will hike on **Boston hill** in the morning and see the **Taiko Drummers** at the Fine Arts theatre in the afternoon to learn more click [here](#). This Wednesday the forecast is rainy so **please remember to send your student ready for the rain.** (Rest assured if the weather becomes too harsh the middle school staff will have a backup plan for the students like they did last week.) On top of the rain gear, all middle schoolers are required to bring their **BIG 5: water, hat, journal and pencil, lunch, and sturdy walking shoes.** Keep in mind, if your student comes to school without one big five item they will lose all five preparation points!!!!