

# Aldo Leopold Charter School: Weekly Update

December 8, 2020

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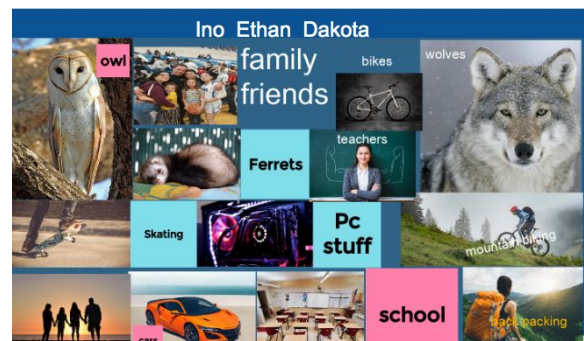
Jace

Protect the Gila



## Listen to the kids

Inspired by feedback from some brave 8th graders, middle schoolers will be following their bliss. Last Friday, students brainstormed ideas that they are passionate about. Groups will be formed and next semester, students will work together on a project that they design collaboratively. Throughout this Update you will see some of the slides with student's ideas and brainstorms.



## Keeping track

The **New Mexico Public Education Department** is keeping track of **positive Covid cases** that are in any way connected to schools so that they can make decisions and policy around this annoying, exasperating, debilitating, possibly deadly, highly contagious, frustrating virus. If an adult in your home has tested positive for Covid-19, would you be so kind as to **call the school** and let us know? We will pass this information on to the PED to support their effort to get us back to “normal” school.

In my opinion humans need to know the truth and the truth isn't always sugar and rainbows, for example climate change. It may suck but its real and we made it so we need to square up and say we made this thing and we're going to admit it and fix it. Another example is iphones and tablets and apple and samsung products in general. Because humans don't like to admit it but we are addicted to our smart devices and that is a fact, it's hard to say but i have a tablet and sometimes i cant get off it, it's really sad that we have gone from hunting our own food to being couch potatoes. Also addiction in general, there's drugs such as cigars , sugar , nicotine, vapes , weed and so many other things that i can't name because i bet i don't even know half of the names of the drugs in the world! Another problem is the homeless culture, that due to covid-19 has sadly gone way up , also the people in rehabs and facilities that have gotten shutdown has put more people on the streets! If we're talking about the good things that have happened due to covid, the air pollution in the world has gone way down because no one is going anywhere! So that is a positive benefit to covid-19. One of the biggest and last problem i will be talking about is the LGBTQ comunitny! And i have to say that the way some people treat the LGBTQ community is the way some people treat homeless people, like they don't even exist, but what we're doing is saying " your different therefore i dont like you!" and we do this with politics, the homeless, and LGBTQ! So if you judge them i cant stop you but think

## The youngest among us

The **sixth grade** is spending much of December learning the **physics of light and color**. Next week, they will be creating scientific instruments designed to explore the **nature of sound that pets, siblings**, and perhaps adults with less active imaginations might find somewhat annoying. The **sixth-grade teacher apologizes in advance**.

maddox  
Global warming



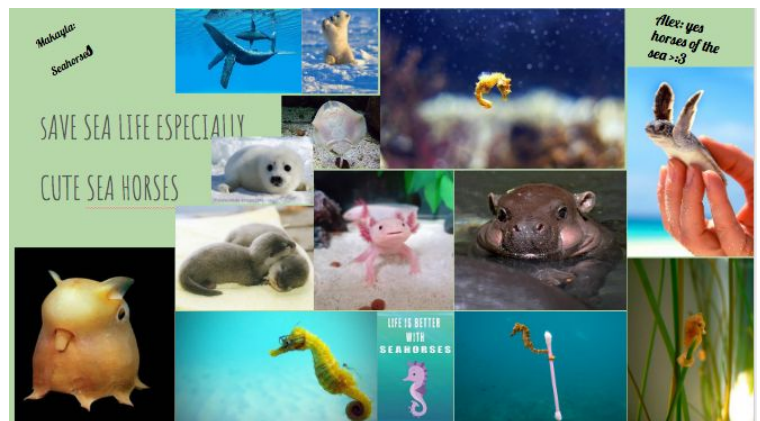
## If you have a bit extra...

Consider [making a donation](#) to the Ella, Michael, and Ella Scholarship Fund. This fund was established in the names of three extra-ordinary Aldo students, Ella Kirk, Michael Mahl, and Ella Myers, who died in a plane crash in May of 2014. The scholarship is awarded to a graduating Aldo student who plans to go on to an accredited college. The fundraising committee has set a goal of \$15,000 to replenish the fund; please consider

giving in support of past and future greatness.

## Seventh grade

7th grade will be wrapping up the semester with **finals week, December 14 - 17**. Students will complete a project for their math and science final this year. They will research an organism of their choice and create a project based on the characteristics of life they have been learning about. **Students will present their project on Monday and Tuesday, December 14th and 15th**. Their math final will be tied to their research project. They will use data from their project to answer questions about scaled copies, scaled drawings, and proportional relationships - tables, graphs, and equations. I'm sure your child would be happy to tell you more about it!



## Pen pals

The middle school usually does a school wide gift exchange about now. This year we are going old school and exchanging *cards*. The kind that you make and *write on* and fold and stick in *an envelope* and write an address on and stick a *stamp* on and put in the *mailbox*. Not even kidding! Card creation kits (card, envelope, stamp, craft items) are available for anyone who would like. Students were emailed the mailing address of the person they “drew” last Friday. CHECK YOUR ALDOSTUDENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE ADDRESS!!

I think that money is dumb.

Hi Im Keanu Wilson and this is how I met your mother. Jk lol. Anyway I think that money is dumb because trade is just easier and bargaining too. Think about it. If money didn't exist there wouldn't be as much poverty because you could farm things and trade the things that you farm for things that YOU need. Also trading is more wholesome than money. And you could get good trades for a ps5 let's say so ye.



## The Raven

Pete and Maddy are fond of reminding students to pay attention for what is hidden in plain sight. In this [video](#) for the Environmental Science Class, we are reminded about the cleverness of the ubiquitous raven. Ninth graders were assigned the thankful task of going outside to observe one of these everpresent beautiful birds.

### Ella's slide

I wouldn't know how to turn this into a project, but do you think there's a way to pull carbon out of the air, and if enough is gathered, compress it into diamonds? I'm pretty sure diamond mines are really unsafe, also, but I don't know. I thought of it because diamonds are basically super-compressed carbon.

There could also be a project on raising money to support endangered animals.

There's one more thing, inspired by Teneal's and Vega's bits on mental health issues, but I think awareness REALLY needs to be spread about OCD not being a joke. It's painted as perfectionism, when really it's a debilitating mental disorder that can really hurt and ruins tons of people's lives. But people treat it like it's something everyone gets and something that isn't a big deal.

## Reaching for the stars

Local author Sharman Apt Russell is hosting a virtual science fiction and fantasy book group for middle and high school students called Constellations. This group meets twice a month. The next two books are [Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi](#) and [Uprooted by Naomi Novik](#). Contact Ms. Aversa (emily.aversa@aldostudents.org) if you'd like!