

Live Learn Lead



6th graders at the middle school dance.

ALDO LEOPOLD CHARTER SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE

January 30, 2019

(575) 538-2547

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

www.facebook.com/aldoleopoldhs

Let the students lead

The kids we spend our days with here at Aldo, *your* kids, will one day be adults-kind of an awesome thought, huh? We want, and we are sure you want, these soon-to-be grown ups to be able to represent themselves well. This is not a skill that comes easily for all. **Student Led Conferences** are an opportunity for students to reflect on who they are at school, how they perform academically, what are their strengths and weaknesses, what they need help with, and who can provide that assistance. We hope you can join your child in this presentation/conversation about them so you can support them to be the person they are growing into. The **high school** will have **SLCs on Friday, February 7**. Please contact Cathie to make an appointment with your child's advisor (*Interns and YCC crew members will work this day. You are responsible for getting yourself from your worksite to the school for your conference and back to your worksite*). **Middle school** has SLCs on **Thursday, February 6** and **Friday, February 7**. MS parents contact Andrea to set an appointment with one of your child's teachers.

Important dates

February

- Thursday 6 & Friday 7.....Middle School Student-Led Conferences
Friday 7.....High School Student-Led Conferences - *YCC & Internships are running. NO CO*
Monday 10.....9th graders to Winter Count
Thursday 13-Friday 14.....Ski Trip to Sunrise - Outdoor Club-*High School only*
Monday 17.....No School - Presidents' Day
Tuesday 18.....No School - Inservice
Friday 21.....Dream Makers Club trip to UNM - Middle School Students
Monday 24-Thursday 27.....10th grade to Arizona - Conflict Awareness Trip

March

- Wednesday 11 - Thursday 12.....Middle School overnight at City of Rocks
Friday 13.....In-Service
Monday 16-Friday 20.....Spring Break
Monday 23.....High School Projects DUE
Sunday 29-Thursday, April 2.....Junior Trip to San Carlos, Mexico!!



They were awesome!

We miss Ella, Michael, and Ella. They perished in a tragic accident in 2014. In celebration of their commitment to the arts, the environment, and the community a scholarship was set up to “give a graduating Aldo senior the opportunity to reach their own potential in the manner we so admired in each of these three students.” To apply for the Ella, Michael, Ella Memorial Scholarship, go to the [New Mexico Community Foundation](#) website. All graduating seniors are welcome to apply. *Application deadline: **March 15.***

S.O.S!!

Last year, the New Mexico Legislature passed a bill that eliminates small-school funding in most districts over the course of five years. Aldo is considered a small school because we have fewer than 400 students. And because we are physically located within a district of over 2,000 students, we are included in the funding phase-out. That means that for this current school year we lost 20% of this source of our state funding, amounting to 7% of our operational budget at a time when the state mandated that salaries increase more than 6%.

We are on track, along with our local 6th Street School and Cliff Schools, to lose another 20% next year and the



Above: Aldo students went to Santa Fe this week with Jim and Maddy for Grant County days to lobby representatives for the passage of HB 147. From left Lindsey (10th), Jim (teacher), Sam (11th), Hawk (11th), Tigerlily (10th), Ava (12th), Dena, Sterling, Sam (all 11th graders), Katrina, Carlos, Aji, Kenya, Michelle, and Livia (all 12th graders)

same percentage for the next three years after that. If this is not reversed, Aldo will have to cut its staff dramatically and as a result greatly increase class size. This is not good. Fortunately, Representative Javier Martinez of Albuquerque “dropped” (that’s legislative hot-shot talk for “introduced”) [House Bill 147](#). “This is an attempt to salvage the small schools adjustment for certain schools,” including ours. The maximum district size in which small-school funding is provided would increase to 4,000, putting our district well under so we would then not lose this critical funding. Please contact our state representatives and senators and tell them to say, “Yes!” to HB 147. Even more important, please contact Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and ask her to include this bill in her “call” for this 30-day legislative session. Without that, the bill will never even get a hearing. Let them know what the impact would be if this bill is not passed, why you support Aldo, and that you don’t want teachers to lose their jobs which would lead to much bigger class sizes. Tell them that you appreciate the small class size because we know our students and they respond very well to that love and academic attention. As always, it takes a village to get things done!

Governor’s Office: ryan.stewart@state.nm.us (he’s the Secretary of Education) and stephanie.rodriguez3@state.nm.us (she’s the Governor’s policy advisor on education)

Senator:

Gabriel Ramos gabriel.ramos@nmlegis.gov

Representatives:

Rudy Martinez rodolpho.martinez@nmlegis.gov

Rebecca Dow rebecca.dow@nmlegis.gov

Candie Sweetser candie.sweetser@nmlegis.gov

Put your back into it!



This Friday the middle school will be splitting up. We just need a little space from each other. It's not us, it's them. Just kidding. Seventy-five middle schoolers is a lot to take to one place, so sometimes we go our separate ways. **Mr. Cantrell's, Ms. Chaney's, and Erik's advisories** will be going to **the Commons** to learn about pruning trees, giving the garden some TLC, and helping to prep for Saturday's food distribution. That leaves **Jennifer, Garret, and Ms. Aversa's advisories**. These guys will be going out to the Mimbres to give a hand to our friend Daniella who has a farm right next to the river (I know, but someone's got to do it). Students will be learning about biochar (carbon sequestering, which makes the soil better than ever), giving needed attention to the garden, and turning what we experience into writing. EVERYONE needs their BIG 5. *Just because you have fabulous hair doesn't mean*

your skin doesn't wish you'd put on a hat to protect it from the sun's life-giving, yet damaging rays. (Above: a view of where the middle school spent last Friday. Below left: We had Jack Black with us so that was cool. Below right: stories and instruction from Billy Sherman.)



Nurse's Notes: The Most Common STI in America

Recently, my friend & Aldo parent Rene Despres dropped off a few posters promoting the HPV vaccine. Rene, a longtime health advocate, will be happy to know that the posters are hanging at Ritch Hall. The HPV vaccine is relatively new; it became available in 2006, the year after I graduated from nursing school, & I remember that I recommended it to my daughter, who was by then in college, as soon as I heard the vaccine was available.

When the posters arrived at Ritch Hall, I was surprised by the youthful photo of a smiling girl in the corner of the brightly colored notice. HPV stands for human papillomavirus, which is the little demon that causes venereal—that is to say, genital—warts. In my ignorance, I'd presumed that the ideal age for administering the vaccine would be just before the onset of (potential) sexual activity, since HPV is a sexually transmitted infection. (If you're like I was as a parent of a teen in the 1990's, thinking about the onset of your child's "sexual activity" is a sobering matter.)

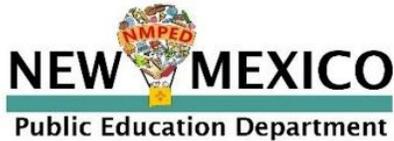
According to the Centers for Disease Control, HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI) in the United States, affecting some 79 million Americans—most of them in their teens and early twenties.

What any good nurse should tell you, though, is that the vaccine should be administered well before the age of typical sexual activity. The CDC recommends that children 11 and 12 years old receive the vaccine; it can be given as early as nine years and is generally not recommended for people over the age of 26. Why give the vaccine as early as 11? Well, it turns out that teens who receive the vaccine after the age of 14 end up needing three doses instead of the two that younger children require.

I anticipate one final question: Since venereal warts seem to be more of a nuisance than a national plague, why not just deal with the problem when it arrives and skip the vaccine? The greater risk of an HPV infection turns out to be the long-term rather than the short-term consequences, because, over the years—even over decades—HPV can lead to cervical and other types of cancers. According to the CDC, "HPV infections and cervical precancers (abnormal cells on the cervix that can lead to cancer) have dropped significantly since the vaccine has been in use.

- Among teen girls, infections with HPV types that cause most HPV cancers and genital warts have dropped 86 percent.
- Among young adult women, infections with HPV types that cause most HPV cancers and genital warts have dropped 71 percent.
- Among vaccinated women, the percentage of cervical precancers caused by the HPV types most often linked to cervical cancer has dropped by 40 percent."

Given the strong safety record for the vaccine and the seriousness of the illnesses it can prevent, your Aldo school nurse recommends the vaccine to the young members of our school family.



Parent Feedback Webinars for New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness Score Interpretations and Uses

The New Mexico Public Education Department Assessment Bureau in partnership with Cognia is seeking feedback from parents on how **comprehensible** and **useful** the score interpretation documents are for the New Mexico Assessment of Science Readiness (NM-ASR).

The Assessment Bureau invites all interested parents to attend one of three webinars to provide their feedback on the NM-ASR score interpretations and uses (SIU) statements.

At the conclusion of each webinar, participants will be asked to complete a survey, and will receive a certificate of participation.

Webinar Options

- Webinar #1: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM MT
- Webinar #2: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM MT
- Webinar #3: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 | 6:00 – 7:30 PM MT

Registration Information

Prospective participants may register at: <http://bit.ly/NM-ASR-SIU-ParentWebinarsRegistration>

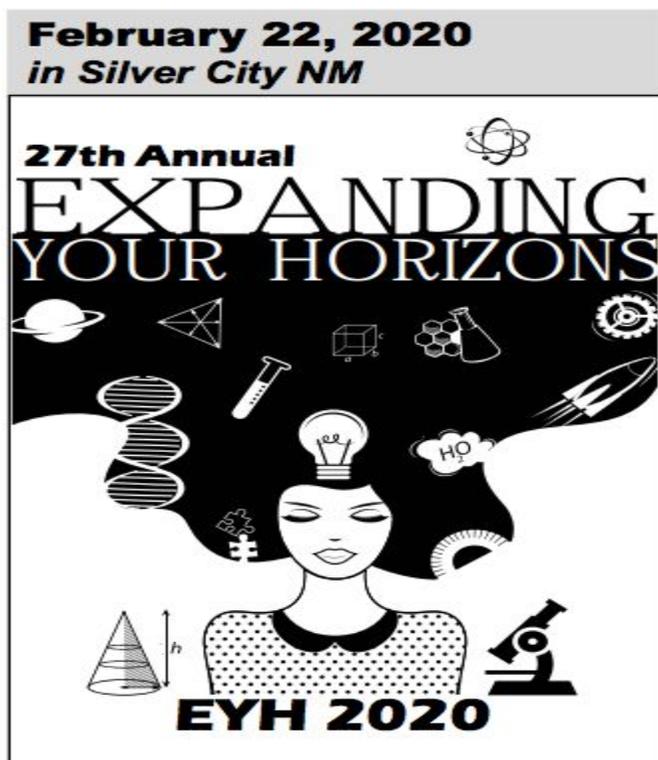
After registering, participants will receive an email with the webinar details for the specific session selected.

Should you need any assistance with submitting your registration, please contact the Cognia Help Desk at 1-877-676-6722 or nmhelp@cognia.org.

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Science is fun!



WNMU is hosting [Expanding Your Horizons](#) on Saturday, February 22, 2020.

This event is for girls in grades 5-8 and offers workshops in science, technology, engineering and math. It is an amazing event! Girls can take workshops about archeology, being a dentist, beekeeping, pharmacology, suturing, mining, physical therapy, snakes, geology, veterinary medicine. You must [register online](#), then print out the [flyer](#), bring the "Permission to Participate" part with a parent signature to the event. Register NOW because this is a popular event and will fill up fast! If you have any further questions please feel free to call 575-538-6416.