

THE

# Aldrin Announcer

November 22, 2011

Edwin Aldrin Elementary School  
617 Boxwood Drive  
Schaumburg, IL 60193  
847-357-5400

*"Caring and Learning go Hand-in-Hand"*

Principal: Mrs. Mary Botterman  
Editor: Mrs. Denise Davis

Asst. Principal: Mrs. Nell Haack  
PTA Presidents: Mrs. Molly Bryant  
Mrs. Lisa Reck

The Aldrin Announcer is your PTA/School news source.



From your Aldrin PTA Co-Presidents,

At this time of year, we hope that you can take a few moments to reflect on what and who you are thankful for in your life.

To our own Aldrin Staff Members, all of our PTA volunteers, the parents of our Aldrin students and the community, we want to thank you and let you know how much we truly appreciate each and every one of you and ***we are very thankful*** for all of you, who help us accomplish what we do for the children at Aldrin.

## Be Thankful

*By Author Unknown*

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.  
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?  
Be thankful when you don't know something,  
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times.  
During those times you grow.  
Be thankful for your limitations,  
because they give you opportunities for improvement.  
Be thankful for each new challenge,  
because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.  
Be thankful when you're tired and weary,  
because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things.  
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who  
are also thankful for the setbacks.  
Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.  
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,  
and they can become your blessings.

Enjoy your holiday and your time with family and friends.

Molly Bryant and Lisa Reck  
Aldrin PTA Co-President 2010-2011  
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Contact: Home # after 6 p.m. 847-584-1662  
Cell #847-921-3396

# ALDRIN

## November 2011

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> School Store at Lunch Odd Numbered Classrooms \$3.00 Limit	<i>3</i> School Store at Lunch Even Numbered Classrooms \$3.00 Limit	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Birthday Books	<i>9</i> Hot Lunch  PTA Board Meeting – 7pm	<i>10</i> Market Day Pick-Up	<i>11</i> NO SCHOOL Veterans Day	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> Parent Visitation 9:30-10:30am <i>or</i> 12:30-1:30pm  Fun Food	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> Aldrin Pizza Day Cash & Carry \$2.00/slice  Community Closet Clothing Drive 3:00-5:30pm	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> Spirit Wear Fall Color Day	<i>23</i> NO SCHOOL	<i>24</i> NO SCHOOL  	<i>25</i> NO SCHOOL	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band at Frost-7:00pm	<i>29</i> 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night at Jr. High	<i>30</i> PTA Hot Dog Day			



Please be sure to visit the Virtual Backpack often, as the flyers and information are constantly changing! This website was created to eliminate paper in backpacks and provide links to community educational & recreational events for children and their families.

The address for the virtual backpack is <http://sd54.org/virtualbackpack>.

## Aldrin PTA Meetings 2011-2012



<b>December 7, 2011</b>	(Wednesday)	12:15 p.m.	General Meeting (Nominating Committee Formed)
<b>January 4, 2012</b>	(Wednesday)	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
<b>February 15, 2012</b>	(Wednesday)	12:15 p.m.	Board Meeting
<b>March 14, 2012</b>	Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	General Meeting (Election of Officers)
<b>April 11, 2012</b>	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
<b>May 16, 2012</b>	Wednesday	12:15 p.m.	Board Meeting

**Please come join us and see what we are all about !**

## ALDRIN SPIRIT WEAR

All families that ordered spirit wear!!! Orders were filled and distributed on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> and sent home with your student.

Also we have many spirit days throughout the school year. Please see the spirit days below and encourage your student to participate.

November 22	Brown, Yellow, Green - Fall Color Day
December 16	Red and Green Day
January 24	Black and White Day
February 14	Pink and Red Day
March 16	Green Day
April 25	Sports Jersey Day (Wear your favorite Sports Jersey Today)
May 25	Red, White and Blue Day



Thank you to the students for all of the wonderful and creative suggestions for our "School Spirit" hot chocolate drink. The top 3 names were chosen and the students then voted for the winner. Congratulations to Charlie Z. in Room 214 for coming up with winning name. Great job!!!

The Eaglicious Delicious Hot Chocolicious will be available at the Barnes & Noble Book Fair on Saturday, December 10th.

## Holiday Gift Shop

Does your child need to find that special gift for someone special this holiday season? Well, on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm they can come to the Holiday Gift Shop and find the perfect gift for everyone on their list. There will be a variety of items to choose from including items from the Bears, Hawks, Cubs, Sox and Bulls. There will also be items for Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt, Uncle, brothers, sisters and friends. There will be a letter coming home within the next few weeks with all the details. Also, with the letter will be a special envelope for your student to use to make their list to help them with their gifts at the Holiday Gift Shop. Please do NOT bring the envelope back to school. So stop by the gym on December 3<sup>rd</sup> between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm and check out the Holiday Gift Shop. Hope to see you there!

Volunteers are welcome!

Donna Porter Holiday Gift Shop Chairperson

[donna\\_porter@wowway.com](mailto:donna_porter@wowway.com)

847-301-1084



**Calling all Band Parents and Friends...**

**The 5th grade and 6th grade band concerts are quickly approaching!**

**6th graders will have the opportunity to showcase their musical talents and perform alongside the Frost 8th grade band on Monday November 28th.**

**5th graders will have a special Demonstration Concert on Tuesday December 6th, where they will show off their newly developed instrumental skills.**

**BOTH concerts are being held at Frost Junior High at 7:00 P.M in the gym.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Musically yours,**

**Kelly Adair  
Band Teacher**





Please join us at the  
**Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Fair**  
**Saturday, December 10th**

Events will be starting at **10:00 a.m.**  
Come see our guest readers, 5th and 6th grade carolers, Aldrin  
Ambassadors, student artwork display and more.

If you are unable to attend the fair, you can  
order **on-line December 10 - 15.**

Stop by the Café and have our "School Spirit Drink" ~ The **Eaglicious**  
**Delicious Hot Chocolicious.** **Charlie Z.** in Room 214 entered the  
winning name for this drink.

**Fuddruckers** will be hosting a Family Fun Day for Aldrin on  
**Saturday, December 10th** as well.

Please see the attached flyers for more details on the **Barnes & Noble** and  
**Fuddruckers** events.

We hope to see you there!  
The Aldrin Book Fair Committee



## Your Aldrin 2011-2012 Color Yearbook

The Pre-Order price of \$18.00 will only be good until 12/16/11  
Starting 01/03/12, the price for a yearbook will be \$20.00!

**ORDER NOW – DON'T WAIT !!**

*(Books will be distributed towards the end of the school year.)*

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### YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Room # & Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(If Preschool or Kindergarten, please indicate AM or PM)

Yearbook \_\_\_\_\_ x \$18.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(QTY) (price good until 12/16/11)

If you are ordering for more than one child, you may pay with one check (Payable to Aldrin PTA), but please fill out a new form for each child !!!

Return to your child's classroom in an envelope marked Yearbook Order Form – PTA

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa Reck at 847/584-1662.



**The Aldrin PTA is looking to make it a “Record” year**, we have been given a goal to reach out to and sign up **385 members** for our Aldrin PTA. We know we can do it. We have **signed up 327 members so far**. Please help us reach our goal.

Show your support by joining the PTA, please take a few minutes to fill out the form below and return it to school in an envelope marked “Membership” to the PTA folder in your child’s classroom if you haven’t done so already. Your card will be delivered back to the classroom for your child to bring home to you. Your family name will be put on a **record** and added to our **“ROCK and ROLL”** membership board located in the front hallway. We are looking to fill up our board this year with a **“Record Number of Hits”** this year.

**Who can be an Aldrin PTA Member?** *Moms, Dads, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles, Alumni, Community Members, Friends, Neighbors, Staff Members – Anyone who wants to help our kids succeed!*

You must sign your card for it to be valid, and please keep it in a safe place.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Child(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fee for the 2011—2012 school year will be:  
2 Memberships for \$10.00 or 1 Membership for \$6.00**

**Make Checks payable to Aldrin PTA!**

# of Memberships \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(Translations of the Membership Article in Spanish and Polish can be view on the schools website)*

Thank you,  
Lisa Reck  
Membership Chairperson

**Do you Groupon?**

Support the District 54 Schaumburg Township Elementary School Foundation by registering for this exciting SD54 Foundation Groupon/Amazon initiative at [www.ce4psdeals.com](http://www.ce4psdeals.com)

Help the District 54 Foundation by registering... and spread the word! Everywhere around the country, people can help the Foundation – feel free to pass this information along.

For more details, check out the link below or contact the Foundation at [found54@sbcglobal.net](mailto:found54@sbcglobal.net) or (847) 352-0652

<http://d54foundation.com/news/2011/09/28/foundation-linked-to-groupon-amazon/>



**SUPPORT the FOUNDATION**

*Purchase your holiday décor  
From Superior Evergreens  
At  
Mallard Crossing  
(N.E. corner of Meacham & Nerge Roads)*

*November 21<sup>st</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup>*

*Mention the D54 Foundation and portion of the proceeds will be donated back to the Foundation!*

## Schaumburg Township Council

### of PTAs

### Reflections: Diversity Means .... Exhibit



Come and see all the Schaumburg Township Council Reflections projects on display.

**November 21, 2011**

**7:00 – 9:00 pm**

**Keller Jr. High, 820 Bode Rd., Schaumburg**

### **November is American Diabetes Month**

**What is Diabetes?** Diabetes is a disease in which blood glucose levels are above normal. Most of the food we eat is turned into glucose, or sugar, for our bodies to use for energy. The pancreas, an organ that lies near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin to help glucose get into the cells of our bodies. When you have diabetes, your body either doesn't make enough insulin or can't use its own insulin as well as it should. This causes sugar to build up in your blood.

Diabetes can cause serious health complications including heart disease, blindness, kidney failure, and lower-extremity amputations. Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.

Nearly 26 million children are living with diabetes and every 17 seconds someone is diagnosed with diabetes. Here are a few tips to help your child manage diabetes at school.

- Inform school principal, teacher and the school nurse that the child has diabetes.
- Create a diabetes management plan with the school nurse.
- Provide current emergency contact information.
- Provide school with all equipment necessary for your child's diabetic medical care (glucose test kit, insulin/shot/injector/pump/medication orders)
- Inform school staff of any changes in child's health.
- Wear a medical ID bracelet that says the child has diabetes.
- Make sure that the child has emergency snacks with them at all times if their blood glucose gets too low.
- Check blood glucose levels regularly.
- Get enough sleep.
- Make sure your child can manage diabetes at a level appropriate for his/her age.
- Encourage your child to eat healthy foods. Eat smaller portions. Learn what a serving size is for different foods and how many servings you need in a meal. Eat less fat. Eat more fiber & whole grains. Eat a variety of fruits & vegetables every day. Make sure your child gets at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day.

Diabetes does not have to get in the way of your child's good experiences at school.

Remember, parents and schools have the same goal: to ensure that students with diabetes are safe and that they are able to learn in a supportive environment.

Some information taken from: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Eat Right websites.

Submitted by: Jennifer Gradowski, Exceptional Child Committee  
and Ms. Lockner, Aldrin Certified School Nurse

## CHANGES RESULT IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AT ALL-TIME HIGH IN DISTRICT 54

By Ed Rafferty, Superintendent of Schools  
Published in the *Daily Herald* on Wednesday, November 16, 2011

Unbelievable gains in student growth. Impressive results. Closing the achievement gap. Raising the bar. These are just several of the comments that we heard from staff during the first round of our district's 90-day school improvement planning process. We are in the teaching and learning business and our staff members take this work very seriously.

Early in the year, school teams take an in-depth look at what has been working, identify which practices they would like to continue and determine the areas in need of improvement. They thoroughly analyze all available data as they develop their school improvement plan to increase student learning.

The plans are monitored at both the school and district levels on a continuous basis. This process was adapted from successful business practices and has been critical in helping to ensure that all 27 of our schools and the district as a whole are keeping a tight focus on meeting the student learning goals approved by our Board of Education.

The first review cycle has recently been completed and our data indicates that student achievement is at an all-time high. Information that is shared during these meetings not only becomes the basis for individual school improvement plans, but also provides us with priority focus areas that need districtwide support.

Several years ago, it became obvious that we were not seeing the type of growth in reading in the primary grades that we would expect. In response to this finding, the Department of Student Learning worked with groups of primary-grade teachers and reading specialists to develop a specific plan for improvement. In only its second year of implementation, schools are reporting positive gains in the number of students meeting grade-level reading expectations.

Another districtwide area of focus has been restructuring the services that we provide to our English Language Learners. Even though the achievement level of our English Language Learners was one of the highest in Illinois, it was not good enough for District 54.

Due to the significant gains that these students are making, our district was selected as one of only 10 districts across the country to participate in a best practice research study being conducted by the United States Department of Education. The Department of Education is planning to disseminate their findings to other districts for replication.

A common theme that schools will be working on this year is the expansion of enrichment opportunities for students who are achieving at high levels. Teachers will be placing greater emphasis on teaching creative problem solving and incorporating higher-level thinking skills into their daily teaching.

Our staff continues to share that this planning process is one of the most meaningful activities in which they participate as educators. It helps them to thoroughly analyze specific student and schoolwide achievement data, compare themselves to other schools and collaboratively develop specific action plans that are monitored on a regular basis.

We often hear criticism that public schools underperform, make excuses for the lack of student progress and do not prepare students to be competitive in the global market. I am proud to say that this is not the case in District 54. During the review meetings one of our teachers said it best. "Goals can be meaningless and data just numbers until we put a student's name and face to it. Data and goals only become meaningful when we develop specific plans and monitor our progress to ensure that all of our students reach their full potential. This is what we do at our school, this is what we do in our district and this is why our students are so successful!"