

ALDRIN ADVISORY



“A FAMILY AFFAIR: HOME AND SCHOOL REMAINING FOCUSED ON LEARNING... CHILD-BY-CHILD”

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Happy Thanksgiving...

From the Aldrin Staff!!

Wednesday, November 25th, school dismisses **two (2) hours EARLY** for the Thanksgiving holiday.

School hours on November 25th is as follows:

Grades: K– 6 9:15–1:55 p.m.

AM Preschool: 9:15–10:45 AM

PM Preschool: 10:45 AM–1:20 PM

PAC 9:15 AM–1:20 PM

School is closed November 26th & Friday, November 27th.

Principal's Thanksgiving Message

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ 2 hr Early Dismissal—November 25
- ◆ No School—November 26 & 27
- ◆ Supply Match—November 30
- ◆ Barnes & Noble Book Fair—December 3 & 4
- ◆ Winter Concert—December 9
9:30 a.m.—Student Assembly
7:00 p.m.—Parent and Guest Assembly
- ◆ 2 hr Early Dismissal—December 23
- ◆ Winter Break—December 24 thru January 1

Next week we will celebrate Thanksgiving. We will enjoy our families, eat traditional meals, and hopefully pause, reflect and give thanks, especially to members of our families.

I am extremely thankful for having had the privilege to have served Aldrin Elementary staff, students and parents as the assistant principal (2001 - 2003) and principal (2003 - present). The talents and instructional expertise of the Aldrin staff and their love of the teaching / learning process are what ensure the quality and enriching programs we provide for all our children. I am both proud and thankful that our school has such a hard working group of professionals to serve children each day upon entering our building.

The rich diversity that our students and their families bring to our school community is second to none. Differences in cultures, religious beliefs, intellectual abilities, handicapping conditions and giftedness certainly benefit all who work and learn within our school. Parents consistently and unselfishly share their time and talents in so many ways, always supporting our educational mission and their children. Knowing this, I am thankful to be a part of the Aldrin Family.

Thank you teachers and staff! Thank you students! Thank you parents! You, along with my immediate family members, are a special part of my life. It is because of our relationship that we continue to live the meaning of our school theme, *A Family Affair: Home and School Remaining Focused on Learning... Child-by-Child.*

Your Views and Opinions Are Important to Us!

This winter a random sample of Aldrin parents will receive the Parent Opinion Survey. This survey is part of the Principal Performance Evaluation Program and offers parents an opportunity to provide anonymous input about various issues related to our school. These include safety, parent involvement, curriculum, communications, and expectations for student achievement and

behavior.

The survey will arrive in the mail in early December 2009 and will be returned directly to the Fairfax County Public Schools' Office of Student Testing for processing. If you receive a copy of the Parent Opinion Survey, please take a few minutes to complete and return the survey. Your opinions do matter.

FY 2011 Budget Communi- ty Dialogues

Fairfax
County,
Virginia



THREE NEW SESSIONS

Wednesday, December 2: 7 to 9 p.m.

- Hayfield Secondary School
- Herndon High School
- Lake Braddock Secondary School

LOOKING FOR ACCOMPANIST



WE ARE SEEKING A PARENT
OR OTHER INDIVIDUAL WHO
WOULD BE WILLING TO
ACCOMPANY THE CHORUS
FOR THE

WINTER CONCERT
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9.

THE PERSON WHO
ACCOMPANIED THE PAST
THREE YEARS IS NO LONGER
AVAILABLE.

THIS INVOLVES BEING
AVAILABLE FOR CHORUS
PRACTICES ON TUESDAY
MORNINGS.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED,
PLEASE CONTACT:

ANN TIERNEY
703-904-3864
OR
ANN.TIERNEY@FCPS.EDU

Three Reminders in Support of Student Safety and Learning

Instruction begins immediately at 9:15 am Monday through Friday, and continues until five minutes prior to our dismissal time (Monday 1:25 pm and Tuesday – Friday 3:55 pm). I appreciate the efforts of parents who value the importance of having students engaged in instruction from arrival until dismissal each day. Having been a parent of three children, I also understand the occasional times when children must arrive late or be dismissed early for medical appointments, family emergencies, or scheduling conflicts that cannot be avoided. However, the operative wording is “occasional times.” Below are three reminders that will assist our staff in ensuring that your child remains safe and is receiving the benefit of a full-day instructional program.

Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:55 am because we do not have staff to supervise them until that time. Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria at 8:55 am. As children enter the school, they are to wait in the main lobby until they are dismissed to their classrooms. Staff members are assigned to this area from 8:55 – 9:15 am. Parents utilizing *Kiss and Ride* are encouraged to plan their morning routine so that children in the first car of *Kiss and Ride* are able to leave the car for school beginning at 8:55 am and the last car in *Kiss and Ride* is gone no later than 9:10 am, thus allowing ample time for children in that car to arrive in class prior to the 9:15 late bell. Under-

standing that inclement weather days will slow this process, parents are encouraged to adjust accordingly on these days.

Students arriving after 9:15 am must be escorted to the school office by the parent. All adults who supervise *Kiss and Ride* leave their duty station at 9:15 am and are unavailable to supervise children after that time. When parents escort their child to the office the child is safe and the parent is able to provide the office staff with the reason why the child was tardy to school that day. Parking in a parking spot (not curb side) is expected on these occasions.

Parents are encouraged to consider that Aldrin staff provides important instruction to children up to dismissal each day and avoid regularly scheduled after-school appointments and student activities. Disruption to teacher instruction and student learning occurs when even one child needs to leave early, and that child also misses important instructional information. Please be thoughtful of the teaching and learning process and schedule accordingly. Additionally know that, except for emergencies, after 1:10 on Monday and 3:40 Tuesday – Friday students will not be called from class for early dismissal.

If your child is eligible to ride a FCPS provided school bus, you can avoid the *Kiss & Ride* line completely. Doing so will assure they are not tardy to school.

