

**Alden-Conger Public School**  
215 N. Broadway  
P. O. Box 99  
Alden, MN 56009  
[www.alden-conger.org](http://www.alden-conger.org)



## December 2018

Happy Holidays  
from the Staff at  
Alden-Conger!

### *School Closings & Early Outs*

#### *Listen for School Closings*

With winter here we want to remind you that you will be notified of school closing and early dismissals through our JMC Message System. All families have been set up to receive a phone call/message on their home phone. If you would like to receive these notices on your cell phone or through an email or text message please update your information on JMC Parent Access.

We will also announce on the following stations:

KATE radio (1450 am)  
WCCO radio (830 am)  
KAAL-TV (Channel 6)  
KEYC-TV (Channel 12)  
KIMT -TV (Channel 3)

### **Holiday Break:**

December 22—January 1

Classes will resume on January 2, 2019

**No School.....January 21, 2019**

**No School...February 18, 2019**

### **Important Dates:**

#### December 2018

10 K-5 Holiday Concert - 6:30pm  
17 6-12 Band/Choir Concert - 7pm  
**22-31 NO SCHOOL-HOLIDAY BREAK**

#### January 2019

**1 NO SCHOOL**  
2 School Resumes  
18 End of 2nd Qtr/ Sem. 1  
**21 NO SCHOOL-Teacher Workshop**

#### February 2019

**18 NO SCHOOL**  
21 3rd Quarter Midterm



Dear Parent and Community Member,

On November 6, 2018 the communities of Alden and Conger approved a referendum allowing Alden-Conger Public School to use up to \$1,000,000 for the ***“acquisition and betterment of school facilities”***. Part of the plan in moving forward with any possible projects is to solicit input from parents and community members. In order to do this, we will be holding a community meeting sometime in January. Everyone will be invited to attend and will have the opportunity to be part of the discussion about how to spend the money. Before we have this meeting, we would like to gather as much information as possible from all interested families and community members in the form of a survey. Included with this letter is said survey. We are looking for your ideas in terms of projects, ideas or thoughts about what you believe is the best way to spend the \$1,000,000. As you will see on the survey, I have already included several possible projects. Many of these project ideas originated from the *Focus on the Future* meetings held 3 years ago when we began our original project. Additional ideas came from the public meetings that were held prior to the referendum vote on November 6<sup>th</sup>. What we are requesting from you are your thoughts about the listed projects as well as any additional ideas that you believe would benefit our school and our students.

One thing that I want to make sure I state is this: Even though \$1,000,000 is a lot of money, it will go fast and we will not be able to complete every project. This survey and the subsequent meeting is not a guarantee that your ideas or any of the other ideas will be chosen and completed. We were very pleased with the community input we received regarding our original project, and we believe we will once again be rewarded with project ideas that we never considered. Once ideas have been received and the community meeting has been held a project priority list will be created. The next step will be to get bids and estimates for the identified priority projects which, in the end, will ultimately determine which projects we will pursue.

We are asking that you complete the included survey and return it to the school by the time our Holiday break is done (December 24, 2018 – January 1, 2019). You can mail it in, drop it off at school or send it in with your child. Another option is to complete the survey on-line. There is a link on our website that will allow you to complete the same survey electronically. On both the paper survey and on-line survey I have provided a place for you to enter your name. This is completely optional and will have no effect on your responses. By putting your name on the survey we would have an avenue to ask clarifying questions about your ideas if any were to occur.

If you have any questions about the survey or need more detail regarding the possible projects listed, please stop in, give me a call or send me an e-mail.

Thank you all for supporting Alden-Conger Public School and helping us to become the best school possible!

Respectfully,

**Brian Shanks**

Brian Shanks  
Superintendent  
Alden-Conger Public School  
[bshanks@ac242.us](mailto:bshanks@ac242.us)

**School Address:** Alden-Conger Public School  
P.O. Box 99  
215 N. Broadway  
Alden, MN 56009

**School Phone Number:** (507) 874-3240

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## REFERENDUM SURVEY

The money approved through the referendum vote on November 6<sup>th</sup> cannot be used for any academic based project. For example: We cannot purchase curriculum, computers or general supplies with this money. We cannot use the money to pay salaries or pay bills. This money can only be used for the *“Acquisition and Betterment of School Facilities”*.

**Step 1:** Please rate what you believe the priority level should be for the list of possible projects

**Step 2:** Please list any additional ideas or thoughts you may have that would fit into the *“Acquisition and Betterment of School Facilities”*

### POSSIBLE PROJECTS

### CIRCLE the PRIORITY LEVEL

(1 being highest priority – 5 being lowest priority)

- |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Existing Sports Field Improvements<br>(Baseball, North Park Softball, Football) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. 3 stall garage with 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor storage                               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. New Playground Equipment  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Loading Dock  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. School Run Daycare  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Build Supermileage Shop   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Pave Parking Lots   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

### ADDITIONAL PROJECTS/IDEAS

When listing your projects and/or ideas please be precise and concise.

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# ***Alden-Conger Public School*** **December 2018**

## **PTO News~**

### **PTO Night of Knights**

**Theme: "Keepin' It Rural"**

**When: March 16, 2019**

**Where: Hemmingsen's Transfer**

**Time: 6 pm—Midnight**

**Silent Auction—6 pm to 9 pm**

**Live Auction: After Silent Auction**

**New This Year- Live Entertainment**

## **Little Knights Preschool**

**Early Childhood Family Education/School Readiness and Little Knights Preschool**

### **Little Knights Dates for December**

Tuesday, December 4: Parent Advisory Committee—RSVP only – 5:00-5:30 pm

Tuesday, December 4: Santa's Workshop– RSVP only – 5:30-6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 20: Gingerbread House making and mini program for both morning and afternoon Tuesday and Thursday at 8:45am (All students come at 8:00 am)

Thursday and Friday, December 20 & 21: No afternoon classes all students come in the morning.

Friday, December 21: Gingerbread House making and mini program for both morning and afternoon Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:45 am. (All students come at 8:00 am)

December 24-January 1: **NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK**

Happy Holidays!!



# Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Wallin

|                    |                                       |                   |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 7:45 am – 11:00 am | Office Hours:<br>11:30 a.m. – 1:15 pm | or by appointment |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|

## **Seniors – get that FAFSA done!!**

**\*\* If you are planning to attend ANY college (2-yr, 4-yr, technical, etc), you should start working on the FAFSA now! If you did not attend the Financial Aid Night in October and have questions on how to get started, see me. The FAFSA is your gateway to grants, scholarships and student loans at most post-secondary institutions. The 2019-2020 FAFSA uses 2017 taxes, so there is no need to wait – get it done today!**

## **College Representatives coming in December:**

*SDSU Brookings – Monday, December 10 @ 9:15 a.m.*

**\*The next ACT testing date is February 9\*  
Registration is due January 11**

## **College Planning Night**

**Thursday, March 7 @ 6:30 – 8:00 pm**

**For SOPHOMORES & their PARENTS**

**(Juniors are welcome too if they didn't attend last year)**

Representatives from various types of colleges

College application & scholarship tips

## ***SENIORS:***

- Continue to check on the pillar near the office for scholarship updates – this list is also on the homepage of our school website
- Get those college applications in before Christmas break... after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January you will want to focus on applying for scholarship opportunities.
- Stop in if you have questions... I'll be glad to help you get started

## **HOT & GROWING CAREERS**

- **Healthcare Related (including RN, PT, OT, PTA, Med Secretary and others)**
  - **Mental health social workers, counselors, therapists**
    - **Wind Turbine Service Technicians**
- **Teachers – Special Education, Foreign Language, Math & Science**
  - **Technology Related (Software Developer, Systems Analyst, IT Manager, Web Developer, Database Administrator)**

## **TAKE TIME TO TALK**

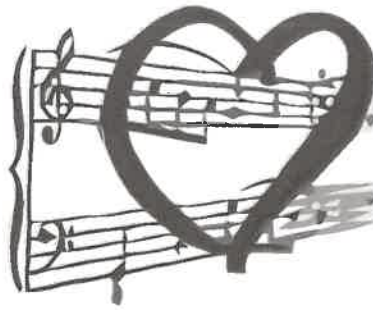
Students can have more stress in their lives than we adults might imagine. Ask your child(ren) about their day, their classes, their friends. Keep the lines of communication open so if they are feeling overwhelmed by something, they will know they can talk to you about it. Let them know there are people at school they can talk to as well – building and maintaining a positive support system is one of the most important things teenagers can do to help deal with everyday life.

The most effective anti-drug is parents who are willing to be parents. If you want your children to come to you with concerns and questions, you must open the door. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Share your beliefs, values, & concerns
- Let your children know they can trust you & come to you
- Answer questions honestly
- Be patient
- Start conversations
- Help your children learn how to make good decisions
- Be a good listener
- Model desirable values, attitudes, & behavior

Don't assume if you don't talk about things, they won't exist. Ignoring topics that are difficult to talk about only gives your children mixed messages, because they will hear it elsewhere. If you talk, they will be listening, even if you don't think they are ☺

***Wishing you all a happy and stress-free  
Holiday Season!!!***



The K-5 Winter Program, **'Twas the Night Before Christmas**, will be held on Monday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Knights gym. Students should dress in their **PAJAMAS!!** Student should be in their classrooms ready to go at 6:10 p.m. that evening. ACES and 5th Grade Band will perform at this concert also.

The 6th - 12th graders' band and choir concert, **The Colors of Winter** will be on Monday, December 17 at 7 p.m. in the Knights Gym . Refreshments will be served after the concert in the cafeteria. Students with last names beginning with A through I should plan to bring a dozen store-bought cookies to be served.



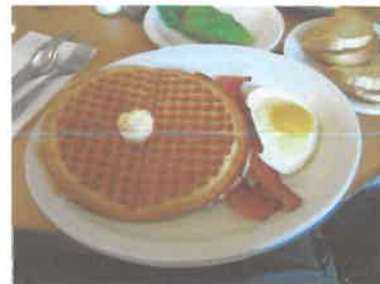
**“Music washes the soul and nourishes life.”**

The High School music students are doing some fundraising for the upcoming March 2019 tour to California. Please join us for the following fundraising events.

**Alden American Legion for breakfast on December 2, 2018 and January 6, 2019.**  
**Albert Lea American Legion for breakfast on December 9, 2018 and January 13, 2019.**

You will be served by music students and their families at each of these events.

We would like to thank those of you who supported the music department's fall fundraiser as well as the other breakfasts and burger basket nights we have held.





*'Twas the Night before Christmas*  
*(2018 K-5 Winter Program)*  
*DVD Order Form*

*Please send \$10 and this form to school with your student if you wish to order a dvd. Orders are due on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. If you are writing a check, please make it out to  
Ann Bryson. Thank you!*

*Student Name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Student's Homeroom Teacher* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent Name* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone Number* \_\_\_\_\_



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# Post Prom

Thank you to all who have donated and served at the volleyball games. Post Prom information has been added to the school website. You can locate it in the Parents Tab. Click on Post Prom for more information. If you cannot work on your assigned date and time, please you must find your own replacement. When you don't show, it is hard on the rest of those serve with less help.

## Basketball Schedule

\* means the chairperson who is in charge of contacting your group for all to attend and get a few groceries.

### Nov. 27 - GBB

Walking Taco's  
\*Sarah/Jason Attig  
Scott/Lisa Bute  
Chance/Trina Foley  
Heather Gwilt  
Amy/Les Prange  
Louise/Delano-Sharpe

### Dec. 6 - GBB

Sloppy Joes  
\*Doug/Laura Kuethe  
Jeff/Ann Erickson  
Jessica/Derek Houston  
Brandy Williford  
David Prestholt  
Ashley Gullickson

### Dec. 14 - BBB

Pizza and Salad  
\*Dave/Birgitt Langrud  
Kelly/Ross Skov  
Wade Drees  
Shar/Dave Rickert  
Sheila/Shawn Riebe  
Jessica Grotsun

### Nov. 30 - GBB

Pizza and Salad  
\*Kristen/Mathew Erkkila  
Amanda Carlson  
Larry/Leslea Gooden  
Ryan/Linda Martens  
Linda/Bob Korman

### Dec 7th - GBB

Walking Taco's  
\*Diana Newman  
Michael/Jolene Newman  
Sherri Longe  
Joe Longe  
Kristin/Mel Nemec  
Jessica Grotsun  
Deb Hoover

### Dec. 21 - GBB

Pizza and Salad  
\*Justin/Kary Reicherts  
Tonya/Bob Hansen  
Chris Jarvis  
Kim/Dustin Lorentzen  
Miranda/Tim Sailor  
Wade/Caroline Steene

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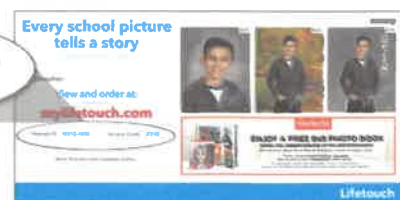
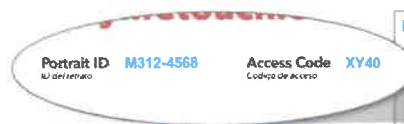
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or call (866) 511-3510 to place your order



Capta, preserva y comparte la alegría de la vida. Ofertas por tiempo limitado en compras en línea de fotos escolares de otoño antes del 20 de diciembre de 2018. Exclusivos en línea: Imagen digital extra GRATIS por una vez. Además, cualquier compra escolar digital puede añadirse a tu cuenta de Shutterfly y guardarse gratuitamente. Encarga en mylifetouch.com y recibe Envío Gratis con pedidos superiores a \$30. Código de promoción: FREESHIP33. La oferta vence el 20 de diciembre de 2018. Además, recibirás esta oferta especial de Shutterfly: OFERTA EXCLUSIVA EN SHUTTERFLY.COM ÁLBUM FOTOGRÁFICO DE 8X8 GRATIS CUANDO ENCARGAS FOTOS ESCOLARES DE OTOÑO EN MYLIFETOUCH.COM. \*Pueden corresponder cargos por impuestos, envío y manipulación. Los cupones y las imágenes digitales se entregan por correo electrónico hasta 48 horas después de la compra. Encarga ahora usando la ID del retrato y el código de acceso de tu hoja de prueba para encargar en mylifetouch.com o llama al (866) 511-3510 para hacer tu pedido.

# Menus for December 2018

ALDEN-CONGER PUBLIC SCHOOL

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menus are subject to change.

## NUTRITION TOGO

The widespread use of chocolate in everything from drinks to candies to other confections makes it one of our most versatile and popular flavorings. Over the years, chocolate has been both praised and criticized regarding its healthfulness. Just remember: chocolate, like most treats, is a food best enjoyed in moderation.

## COLD ≠ COLD.

Cold weather doesn't cause colds - viruses do! Same with the flu. Kids (and adults) should always dress appropriately outdoors for comfort and to avoid frostbite. But if you don't get sick, you should wash your hands!



EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER. LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.  
**WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!**

## A QUICK BITE FOR PARENTS

Monday, December 3

**Breakfast**  
Pancakes W/ Syrup Or Cereal  
Choice & Yogurt, Fruit, Juice,  
Milk  
**Lunch**  
Corn Dog  
Or  
Deli Sub Sandwich  
Steamed Corn, Garden Bar,  
Fresh Fruit Choice  
Pears  
Milk

Tuesday, December 4

**Breakfast**  
Bagel W/ Toppings Or Cereal  
Choice & String Cheese, Fruit,  
Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Beef Bean & Cheese Burrito  
W/ Queso Sauce  
Or  
Chicken Patty W/ G Bun  
Green Beans  
Garden Bar, Macaroni Salad,  
Fresh Fruit Choice, Peaches,  
Milk

Wednesday, December 5

**Breakfast**  
Warm Cinnamon Roll Or  
Cereal Choice & Yogurt, fruit,  
Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Pepperoni Pizza Slice  
Or  
BBQ Pork Sandwich  
Mixed Veggies  
Garden Bar  
Fresh Fruit Choice  
Applesauce  
Milk

Thursday, December 6

**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Pizza Or Cereal  
Choice & String Cheese, Fruit,  
Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Beef Taco Or Chicken Fajita  
W/ G Flour Tortilla &  
Toppings, Spanish Rice,  
Refried Beans  
Garden Bar  
Frozen Fruit Cup  
Mandarin Oranges  
Milk

Friday, December 7

**Breakfast**  
Fruit & Yogurt Parfait W/  
Granola & Graham Crackers  
Or Cereal Choice & String  
Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Meatball Sub W/ G Bun  
Or  
Sun Butter Sandwich  
(Meal 9-12th Grade)  
Cooked Carrots  
Garden Bar  
Fruit Choices, Milk

Monday, December 10

**Breakfast**  
French Toast W/ Syrup Or  
Cereal Choice & Hard Boiled  
Egg, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Chicken Nuggets W/ G Dinner  
Roll (9-12th Grade)  
Potato Smiles  
Garden Bar  
Fresh Fruit Choice  
Applesauce  
Milk

Tuesday, December 11

**Breakfast**  
Cheesy Omelet Or Cereal  
Choice & Toast W/ Jelly, Fruit,  
Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Pizza Choices  
Green Beans  
Garden Bar  
Fresh Fruit Choice  
Peaches  
Milk

Wednesday, December 12

**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Fruel Or Cereal  
Choice & String Cheese, Fruit,  
Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
Rib Patty W/ G Bun  
Or  
Taco Burger W/ G Bun  
California Blend Veggies  
Garden Bar  
Fresh Fruit Choice  
Pears, Milk

Thursday, December 13

**Breakfast**  
Bagel W/ Toppings Or Cereal  
Choice & Yogurt, Fruit, Juice,  
Milk  
**Lunch**  
Hot Dog W/ G Bun  
Or  
Hamburger Patty W/ G Bun  
Baked Beans  
Garden Bar  
Fresh Fruit Choice  
Mixed Fruit  
Milk

Friday, December 14

**BREAKFAST**  
Breakfast Donut Or  
Cereal Choice & String  
Cheese, Fruit, Juice,  
Milk  
**LUNCH**  
HOLIDAY  
Milk

PLEASE REMEMBER: WE SERVED DAILY MENUS INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING: TO PASTAS, SALSA, BABY CARROTS, CELERY STICKS, BROCCOLI, CAULIFLOWER, CUCUMBERS, RED & GREEN PEPPERS, BELL PEPPERS, DARK GREEN LETTUCE, ONIONS, LOW FAT DRESSINGS ARE USED FOR THE GARDEN BAR.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER, PLEASE CALL 410-261-1000. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

PLEASE REMEMBER: WE ONLY ACCEPT CASH FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH. WE DO NOT ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS.

APPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE BUSINESS OFFICE.

PLEASE KEEP ALL YOUR LUNCH ACCOUNTS CURRENT!

# OUR NATION'S HISTORY



The beautiful red plants you see a lot of this time of year are "poinsettias." They are named after Joel Poinsett, an American scientist who, after serving as the first United States minister to Mexico, brought the plants to the U.S. from their native country in 1828. A true statesman/scholar, Poinsett also served as U.S. Secretary of War and advocated for the establishment of an American National Museum - which became the famous Smithsonian Institution.

WITH LIBERTY & JUSTICE FOR ALL

# Happy Holidays!

From  
 Jamie Kirsch Director of School Nutrition,  
 Jolene Babcock, Kay Bendickson,  
 Diane Sorenson

## What's on YOUR plate?



**Q:** Why did Super Orange lose the big race around the world?



**A:** He just ran out of juice! Don't let this happen to you - juice makes a tasty fruit serving!

Learn more at [www.CHOOSMYPLATE.gov](http://www.CHOOSMYPLATE.gov) or <http://kidshealth.org/foodday/healthyfoodpyramid.html>

Monday, December 17

**Breakfast**  
 Muffin Or Cereal Choice W/ String Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
 General Tso's Mandarin Orange Chicken Or Sweet & Sour Chicken, Brown Rice, Asian Veggies  
 Fortune Cookie  
 Garden Bar, Fresh Fruit Choice, Pineapple Milk

Tuesday, December 18

**Breakfast**  
 Pancake Or A Stick W/ Syrup Or Cereal Choice & Yogurt, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
 Sloppy Joe W/ G Bun Or Cheese Pizza Slice Baked Beans  
 Garden Bar  
 Fresh Fruit Choice Peaches Milk

Wednesday, December 19

**Breakfast**  
 Warm Cinnamon Roll Or Cereal Choice & String Cheese, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
 Turkey & Cheese Sub Sandwich Or Mini Corn Dog  
 Ranch Steak Fries  
 Garden Bar  
 Fresh Fruit Choice Peas Milk

Thursday, December 20

**Breakfast**  
 Warm Oatmeal Or Cold Cereal Choice & Animal Crackers, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
 Diced Chicken, Gravy, W/G Biscuit  
 Steamed Peas  
 Garden Bar  
 Fresh Fruit Choice Applesauce Milk

Friday, December 21

**Breakfast**  
 Breakfast Fruited Or Cereal Choice & Hard Boiled Egg, Fruit, Juice, Milk  
**Lunch**  
 Assorted Pizza Choice Or Spicy Chicken Patty W/G Bun  
 Cooked Carrots  
 Garden Bar  
 Fruit Choices Milk



Holiday begins at the end of classes

Friday, December 21

Wednesday, January 2

Classes resume