

# Newsletter

## January 2024



Happy New Year, Aldrich families! I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful break.

January is a busy and exciting month for Aldrich as we start enrolling for the next school year. Remember that if you are planning on returning to Aldrich next year, you must complete the reenrollment process. The first day to reenroll is January 5<sup>th</sup>. We typically enroll about 100 families the first day, so popular classes fill quickly.

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, we open registration for all families new to Aldrich. Please invite your friends to consider what Aldrich has to offer and encourage them to register as early as possible.

As always, we are grateful to be your partner in education.

-Annie Getchell, Director

### **Aldrich Dates to Remember**

- Jan. 3 & 4:** Enrollment Packets for 2023-2024 School Year sent home with currently enrolled families
- Jan. 5:** Priority Enrollment for Aldrich families begins at 8:30am!
- Jan. 10 & 11:** Library Check Out
- Jan. 11:** Open House at Aldrich for Prospective Families 6-7:30pm
- Jan. 11 & 12:** All School Enrichment- Zumba!
- Jan. 12:** Last Day of Priority Enrollment
- Jan. 15:** NO SCHOOL: MLK Day
- Jan. 16:** Open Enrollment begins for families new to Aldrich
- Jan. 16:** Aldrich Board Meeting 6:30pm, open to public
- Jan. 25 & 26:** Pajama Days at Aldrich!
- Feb. 19:** NO SCHOOL: President's Day

### **Early Childhood Screening Reminder**

If your child is at least 3 years old, please call 328-4004 to make a **FREE** appointment for a comprehensive developmental screening at the Northrop Building, 201 8<sup>th</sup> St. NW. The screening staff will check your child's vision, hearing, growth, immunization status, and developmental skills. Please take advantage of this opportunity provided by Rochester Public Schools! The screening gives you information about your child and community resources, and is not a "readiness test" for kindergarten. **Rochester Public schools do require this screening prior to entrance into kindergarten.**



# Registration for 2024-2025

\*\*If you would like your student to attend next school year you **do** need to re-enroll.\*\*



**Registration for next school year begins on Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> for current and past Aldrich families (including children of Aldrich alumni!) with priority given through January 12<sup>th</sup>.** Registration packets will be handed out to all current families on January 3 & 4. In order to register for next year, families will need to turn in a completed enrollment form along with a registration fee (\$100 per family) and an Immunization Record (new students only). Some classes fill up quickly, so be sure to return your paperwork and fee early to secure your first choice. All children of present and past families, returning and new, will need to register. See below for the program offerings for next school year!

**Registration for families new to Aldrich will begin on January 16<sup>th</sup>!** Please encourage your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to visit Aldrich for a tour! We will have group tours available on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30pm. Otherwise, visitors are always welcome to schedule a tour during the school day to visit while classes are in session. Encourage new families to contact the office at [507.289.3097](tel:507.289.3097) to schedule a tour or visit our website for more information at [www.aldrichschool.com](http://www.aldrichschool.com). Current families are our best source of advertising, so thank you for spreading the word about us!

## Program offerings for 2024-2025:

For 2 years olds (2 by September 1, 2024)

- 2 day and 3 day Mornings (can be combined for 5 Mornings)

For 3 year olds (3 by September 1, 2024)

- 2 day and 3 day Mornings or Afternoons (can be combined for 5 Mornings or 5 Afternoons)
- 2 FULL Days and 3 FULL Days (9:00am- 3:30pm, can be combined for 5 FULL DAYS)

For 4/5 year olds (4 or 5 by September 1, 2024)

- 2 day and 3 day Mornings or Afternoons (can be combined for 5 Afternoons)
- 5 Mornings
- 2 FULL Days and 3 FULL Days (9:00am-3:30pm, can be combined for 5 FULL Days)

Extension Opportunities for 3, 4 and 5 year olds:\*\*

- Early Bird
- Lunch Bunch
- Kids Club

As many of you are aware, Rochester Public Schools has approved bell time changes for the 2024-25 school year. Aldrich will continue to coordinate session times with RPS bell times. We have a standing partnership with RPS, and we feel it will be more convenient for families and staff to navigate start and end times.

<b>Aldrich Sessions</b>	
AM (2 year olds)	8:45 – 10:45 am
AM (3-5 year olds)	8:30 – 11:00 am
PM (3-5 year olds)	12:30 – 3:00 pm
Full day (3-5 year olds)	8:30 am – 3:00 pm
<b>Extensions (3-5 year olds)</b>	
Early Board	7:30 – 8:30 am
Lunch Bunch	11:05 am – 12:15 pm
Kids Club	3:00 – 5:00 pm

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, the RPS Superintendent shared a 10-point "Attendance Option Redesign Proposal" that will be voted on February 1, 2024 in order for the bell times to become possible. If this proposal does not pass and the bell times cannot change for the 24-25 school year, Aldrich will revert back to our current session times. Unfortunately, we cannot make our final decision until RPS finalizes their times.

## Outdoor Play at Aldrich

Because outdoor play is an integral part of our curriculum, we try to play outside every day. The amount of time outside will vary on the weather. Unfortunately, the weather is sometimes just too cold for us to safely play outdoors. We follow these guidelines to determine if we will play outside at Aldrich:

- For 3-5 year old classrooms, if the air temp is 0 degrees or colder or if the wind chill is -10 degrees or colder, the children will remain indoors.
- For 2 year olds classrooms, if the air temp is 10 degrees or colder or if the wind chill is 0 degrees or colder, the children will remain indoors.

The temperature is checked shortly before the children would normally go outside using the KTTC Website or the KTTC Weather App. We refer to the actual temperature and "Feels Like" temperature to make decisions. The graphic to the right is what the KTTC Weather App looks like. The temperature on the app will vary by location, be sure yours is set to "55901."

Please help the teachers by ALWAYS dressing your child appropriately for outside play. Warm winter coat, snow pants, winter boots, hat and waterproof mittens make the cold days more fun to play in!



## **News from the Board**



A heartfelt **thank you** to all the families that donated toys to our **Toys for Tots Toy Drive!** Your generosity particularly overwhelmed the team picking up toy donations. They asked multiple times what our secret was, and it's no secret-- Aldrich just has a beautiful community of generous families. We hope this experience opened the door to wonderful conversations with your children about the spirit of giving.