



# Welcome to 5th Grade!

## Aldo Leopold Community School

### September 2018

#### **Meet your teachers!**

**During this next year, your child will have the opportunity to work with each of the 5th grade teachers. We collaborate together and teach all homerooms throughout the year. We look forward to meeting each and every 5th grader!**

Hello! My name is Heather Korpala and I am so excited to be back teaching 5th grade this year! This is my 15th year teaching and my 14th year at Aldo Leopold Community School. I earned both my Bachelors and Masters degrees in Education from the University of Minnesota. I have taught every grade from 1st to 6th and I absolutely love 5th grade. My husband Adam and I have 3 children who will all be joining me this year at Aldo. Hayden is going into Kindergarten, Landon into 4th grade, and Violet into 6th grade. This summer I had the opportunity to attend a workshop in New York City on teaching content through drama and I can't wait to explore this with the 5th graders this year!

Hi! My name is Karen Duranceau and I am excited to be teaching 5th grade again this year. This is my 23rd year of teaching and my 18th year at Aldo. I went to Creighton University for my Education degree and the University of LaVerne for my Masters in Reading. My husband, Billy, and I met at Creighton and have 3 daughters. Evin is a Freshman at St. Louis University, Lorenza is a junior at Southwest HS, and Zoe is here at Aldo in 8th grade. We also have a Goldendoodle named Julius who will be 4 in October. I look forward to working with your child this year. It's going to be a great year filled with new friendships, fun learning and many exciting adventures!

My name is Hilarie Rath and this is my 36th year of teaching and my 29th year at Aldo Leopold Community School. There's a reason I've been here many years: Aldo is a super special place to learn and grow. I've taught most grades somewhere in my teaching career including high school and college classes! I taught for four years in Manitowoc County and three years in East Africa. I graduated from UW-Oshkosh in elementary education and learning disabilities. I completed a master's degree at Northwestern in Speech Communication with an emphasis on storytelling and creative drama. My professional educator's certificate comes from UW-Green Bay. I met my husband, Gary Pribyl, here at ALCS. I am also the mom of an ALCS alumnus, Greg Rath-Pribyl, who will be a senior at UW-Stout this Fall.



## We have a great year planned!

We spent some time this summer planning and organizing many new learning opportunities for you. We think you will enjoy them a lot! To go along with our learning, we will be taking field trips and participating in fun activities all year long. Here are some things to look forward to:

Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya ~ Barkhausen Nature Preserve ~ Weidner Center ~ Baird Creek ~ Barlow Planetarium/  
Weis Museum ~ Ledgeview Caves ~ Meuer Farm ~ Milwaukee Zoo with our kinder buddies ~ Bike Trip to Voyageur Park ~  
Pancake Breakfasts ~ Friendship Feast ~ Howe Head Start ~ Saint John Homeless Shelter ~ and much more!

## Important Dates for Back to School

Please mark your calendars with these dates. We look forward to seeing you!

ALAPTO Back to School Pool Party: Friday, August 17, 6-8 pm, Joannes Aquatic Center

Open House: Wednesday, August 29, 4-6 pm (Meet your teacher and drop off your school supplies.)

**First Day of School and Picture Day:** Tuesday, September 4



## Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya



As part of the fifth grade's outdoor environmental education, we will be taking a trip to Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya from Wednesday, October 10th through Friday, October 12th. Transportation will leave at 8:15 a.m. on Wednesday and pick up will be at the 1:00 early release time on Friday. Chaperones are appreciated and greatly needed so please let your child's teacher know if you are able to join us. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to watch your child interact with their peers in a camp setting.

We are especially in need of male volunteers on this trip. **The student fee is \$105.00 and the chaperone fee is \$65.** Checks can be made out to ALAPTO. This will cover camp curriculum, transportation, lodging, and meals. Partial financial aid will be available on an as needed basis. Further information will be handed out in Fall. Please do not worry if you did not send back the form yet that was sent home last Spring. This adventure is in addition to the Aldo Experiential Learning Fee you also submit. If you have further questions, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.



## Water Bottles

We encourage your child to bring a water bottle to use in the classroom daily (no glass water bottles please). Studies have proven that water is good “brain” food, not to mention we need to stay well hydrated in the hot weather. Having a water bottle in the classroom also maximizes classroom instruction and practice.



## Student agendas/planners

We have decided as a 5th grade team, that all 5th graders will be receiving a planner to use this year. This is a great communication tool to view homework, targets, field trips, etc.

## Homework



Homework is individualized based on the needs of the student and current projects taking place in class. It would be greatly appreciated if you could have a daily conversation with your child regarding concepts they're learning in school. When they finish their homework, look over it with them, discussing areas of strength and work through the more challenging concepts together. This work should not take an inordinate amount of time and if it does, be sure to contact us so we can modify the work accordingly. Knowing basic math facts is really important at this level, so if your child's basic math facts are not yet automatic, please have your child study these for 10 minutes per day. It's also a most important practice for students to read 30 minutes per day at home. Many of our students surpass this goal daily and it shows! Most children finish their

reading assignments in school, so what's really important is the process of finding good books of high interest for your child. If 30 minutes is long for your child, find a couple of good time slots and try breaking it up into shorter segments. We also encourage reading of any kind (books, magazines, newspaper, reading to younger siblings, recipes, etc.).



## Snack

We will have a snack each day. Each child is responsible for bringing his/her own snack. Aldo is a Healthy School, this means that we agree snacks will consist of a fruit, vegetable, meat, and/or string cheese. Applesauce and dried fruit are also acceptable snack choices. We are proud to be an allergy aware school. This also means that we are a peanut and treenut free school.

