



# The Aldrich Inquirer

Aldrich Elementary School

506 N. 162nd Avenue Omaha, NE 68118

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DATE: May 1, 2020

## ***A message from Dr. Penke:***

### **Teacher Appreciation Week:**

May 4-8 is National Teacher Appreciation Week! Our teachers are the best! I have been so impressed with all of the hard work during remote learning. **It would be awesome if you or your child(ren) could reach out and say thank you to our teachers!** I know that would make their day!

### **Last Day of Learning:**

The last day of school is May 14, 2020. All assignments will be due then!

### **Materials Pick Up/Drop Off:**

We are planning on having material pick up and drop off on Friday, May 15th. Please stay tuned for more details.

### **Yearbooks:**

Yearbooks will be disbursed in the fall when we return to school. There have been many delays in printing the yearbooks, so we will share those in August. Thanks to our Yearbook Committee, Heather Longnecker and Mandy Jensen, for working so hard and doing a wonderful job on the yearbook!

### **Work Hard, Have Fun, and See You Soon!**

Have a great weekend!



### **The following events have been cancelled:**

NSCAS testing  
1st grade Music Program  
All April and May field trips  
Band and Orchestra Concert  
Color Run  
Chess Club  
Golden Sower Club and Quiz Bowl  
Spanish Culture Club  
Tech Club  
Coding Club  
5th Grade Middle School Visits  
Olympic Day  
Volunteer Luncheon

### **The following events have been postponed:**

NEW Kindergarten Parent Meeting  
Kindergarten Round-up  
5th Grade Farewell

**\*\*More information about rescheduling will come at a later date\*\***



Omaha Tap House supports Aldrich Elementary year round with dine out nights and various donations. Please consider supporting them with a take out order!



# OLYMPIC DAY

We hope you can join us for our VIRTUAL Olympic Day!  
Friday, May 8th

## **Virtual Olympic Day Opening Ceremonies**

Torch Run/ Lighting of the Torch - Dr. Sutfin and Millard PE Teachers  
Welcome to Olympic Day & Olympic Oath/Aldrich Pledge - Mr. Mohning  
Wavin Flag (Student Video)  
Announcement of the 2021 Olympic Day Tee Shirt Design Winner  
Let the Games Begin!

## **Olympic Day Games**

Directions for the games will be posted as announcements on Seesaw.

1. Pyramid Relay - Egypt
2. Fencing - Spain
3. Triangle Game - Greece
4. Bocce Ball - Italy
5. Hopscotch - England
6. Basketball - United States
7. Student Agency Challenge - create your own game using what you have at home!

## **Virtual Closing Ceremony**

Medal Ceremony Instructions/Closing - Mr. Mohning  
Power of the Dream (Video ) Please submit pictures and videos throughout the day to Mr. Whiston via email at [wrwhiston@mpsomaha.org](mailto:wrwhiston@mpsomaha.org)

\* All Olympic Day Activities will be videos posted on Seesaw and sent via email. The videos will be numbered so you can follow along at your own pace.



## Community Corner

### Finishing the school year strong



We already know that school is out on May 14<sup>th</sup>, so how do you keep your student motivated to finish the school year strong? Some students are wondering how their online lessons will count in their final grades, which can create some problems for parents. It is tempting to let your kids not finish their schoolwork, it is better that they do. You and your student have made a commitment to their education. It doesn't matter if it's online or in class, you can't choose if you will complete the work or not. The teachers have provided academic lessons to help keep your student up to date on the curriculum and serve as building blocks to the curriculum next school year.

It is possible to stay motivated and achieve success by helping your child finish the school year strong. Here are some ideas to help keep your student motivated to finish the school year strong:

1. **Keep them engaged by focusing on lessons and topics that interest them.** This is especially difficult with the subjects your students dread the most. For example use grammar and writing assignments to focus on what they want to do this summer or their latest video game obsession.
2. **Let them drive their day.** Empower your student to make choices to set their schedule.
3. **Get out and about.** When the weather is nice sit outside and read. I love sitting outside and reading a book. Remember to maintain social distancing.
4. **Do more hands-on projects.** Write the spelling words in different colors, create artwork for an album cover, and write the story of your life.
5. **Let them listen to music.** I know I am more motivated to clean my house if I am listening to music.
6. **Work beside them.** Sometimes students work better when they have a friend working with them. It can be lonely for some students to do school work by themselves.
7. **Take lots of brain breaks.** If you take short breaks it is easier to stay on task. Brain breaks can be short activities, such as dance to your favorite song, follow the leader, jumping games, clapping games.
8. **Negative consequences.** Sometimes all the positive strategies don't work. As a parent you may need to be creative, let your student earn screen time by completing work or earn an extra privilege such as picking out the movie for movie night.

These strategies can help your student finish the school year strong.

If you would like more insights, information and practical tools and tips for parenting your child, feel free to contact me. You can reach me by phone at (402) 715-1359 or email me anytime at [rlvacek@mpsomaha.org](mailto:rlvacek@mpsomaha.org).

Respectfully,

*Rachel Vacek, LIMHP, LCSW*  
*School Social Worker*



# GET A FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH!

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Curb side pick up of breakfast & lunch  
at front entrance of each feeding site.

## Feeding Sites



Millard South High School  
Millard North High School  
Horizon High School  
Central Middle School  
Millard North Middle School  
Cody Elementary  
Sandoz Elementary  
Rockwell Elementary  
Disney Elementary  
Holling Heights Elementary