

The Bulldog Bulletin

Alden Primary School – June 2026



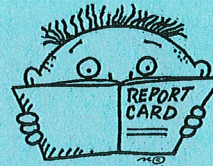
A Note from Mr. Stepnick

Dear Primary School Families,

We're hitting the home stretch and June 25th will be here in the blink of an eye. Thank you for another amazing school year! Please see the attached calendar for clarification and dates on all of our end-of-year activities and events. As we approach the last day of school, here are some important details about our June procedures...

Report Cards

Report Cards will be sent home with students on the last day of school (June 25th). Class placements will be mailed home in mid to late July. This gives the building additional time to evaluate our specialized services, make necessary staffing changes, and account for new student registrations. Student placements are thoughtfully planned, and we value parental input. K and 1st grade parents, if you would like to provide any feedback, please take a few moments to return the attached survey by June 24th!



Supply Lists

Supply lists for 26-27 will be included with report cards. Each grade level has a shared supply list that will be distributed at this time. Although there may be a few items that are specific to a certain classroom, families will still be able to get a head start on all of the summer sales. A final list will be included with your child's placement letter.

2nd Grade Transition Visit to the Intermediate School

On Thursday, June 4th, our 2nd grade students traveled over to Alden Intermediate for an introduction to their future school. Classes met with Mr. Mikulski and the 3rd grade teachers, toured the school, and played on the playground. We will miss all of our 2nd grade students, but we are confident that they are ready for the Intermediate School. Mr. Mikulski will send out 3rd grade placements to families in July.

APS Field Day - June 22nd

Field Day will be Monday, June 22nd. Although we are crossing our fingers for nice weather, we'll have back-up plans in place just in case Mother Nature does not cooperate. We are planning to be outside the majority of the time, and students should have the following items with them at school on this day:

- PTO t-shirt
- Comfortable pants/shorts
- Sneakers
- Water bottle (preferably with name on it)



Parents may also decide to have their child come prepared with additional items such as:

- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Sunscreen (must be applied at home)

PTO Happenings

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 10th - 6:30 PM

@ Alden Primary School

We're still in need of Field Day volunteers for both the AM and the PM on Field Day. Please look for the sign-up link on our Facebook page. Without volunteers, these events are not possible!

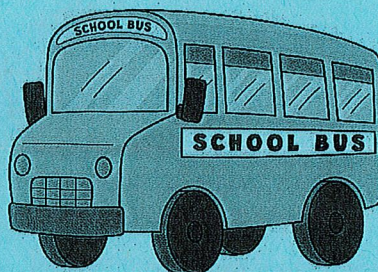
Questions?

Please contact Mrs. Megan Holcomb, PTO President, at 716-864-6409 or aldenprimarypto@gmail.com

Request for Transportation - 2026-2027

Enclosed in this newsletter is a blank 26-27 Request for Bus Transportation form. All students need to have a new form on file for the upcoming school year. Please complete the hard copy and return to Alden Primary School before July 15th. If you would like to complete a digital version of the form, you can do this online via the Alden Central Schools website: www.aldenschools.org → Departments → Transportation.

If this form is not received by July 15th, your child will not be routed on a bus in September. Even if your child will be a daily pick-up, or you plan to enroll in them in aftercare, a new form should still be submitted. Thank you for your assistance with this process!



ALDEN CSD 20__-20__ REQUEST FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION

If we do not receive a form, your child will NOT be routed on a bus.

Return this form to one of the following: 1. Central Registrar via Registration 2. Email: alden_transportation@aldenschools.org 3. Fax: 716-937-3486

Student's Name: _____ School Building: _____
Birth Date: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: Use one (1) form per student. In the event your bus needs change during the year and/or you need transportation at any point, you may fill out a new request form.

Student's Primary Residence _____ Alternate Location (maximum one) _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Contact Name: _____
Street: _____ Relationship: _____
City/Zip: _____ Street: _____
Phone: _____ City/Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please check the appropriate choice below. We DO NOT accept calendars or alternating schedules. All requests must be consistent days and locations.

MORNING PICK-UP (check days needed)		Occasional Walker: ☐	
☐ PARENT will Transport	Every AM ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F	☐	☐
☐ PRIMARY Residence	Every AM ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F	☐	☐
☐ ALTERNATE Location	Every AM ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F	☐	☐

AFTERNOON DROP-OFF (check days needed)		Occasional Walker: ☐	
☐ PARENT will Transport	Every PM ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F	☐	☐
☐ PRIMARY Residence	Every PM ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F	☐	☐
☐ ALTERNATE Location	Every PM ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F	☐	☐

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Requested Start Date _____

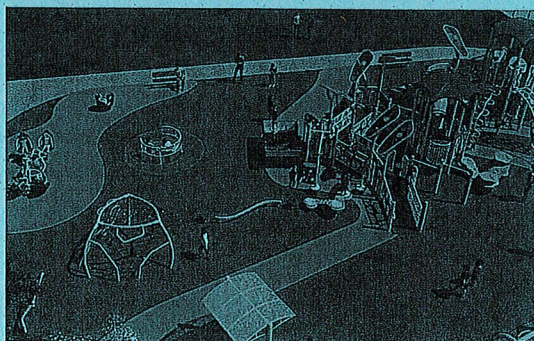
Office Use Only: Date _____ Date Received _____
AM Bus # _____ PM Bus # _____ Entered _____ Notified _____ School _____

Rev 1/2016

Summer Construction

Please be aware that we are expecting quite a mess on the Primary School campus throughout the summer months. Construction will be occurring inside (internal communications/PA systems) and outside (new school playground). Unfortunately, our current playground will be unavailable for summer visits, as there will be lots of heavy equipment and construction crews operating on the grounds. Please feel free to visit the town parks and the Intermediate School though!

Although it will be a little chaotic, we can't wait to see the finished product in the fall!



Extra Notes:

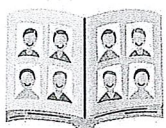


Students should wear their PTO T-shirts for field trips and Field Day!

K – Blue
1st Grade – Gold
2nd Grade – Gray

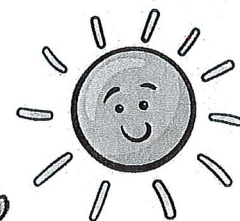
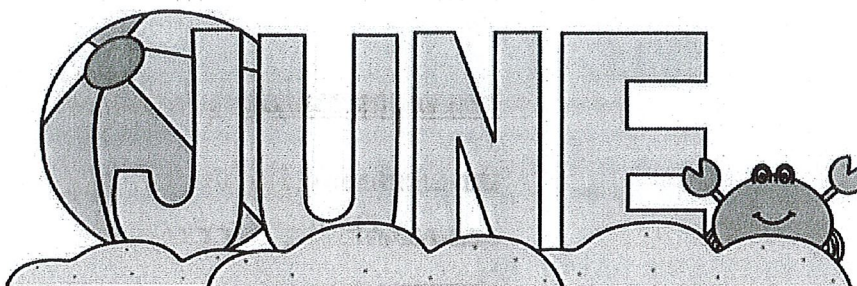
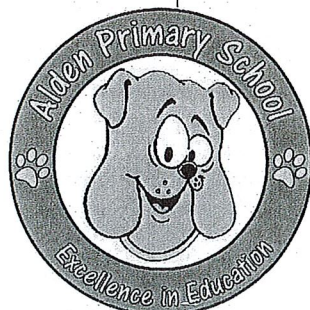
25-26 Yearbooks

All Primary School students in grades K-2 will receive a yearbook at no charge. If students are bringing these yearbooks back and forth to school, please remind them that we cannot replace misplaced yearbooks.

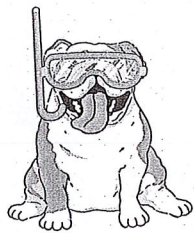


Flag Day

Our kindergarten students will sing a few songs for the rest of the building on Friday, June 12th. As much as we'd like to have a bigger audience, guests are not permitted to attend.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6
Request for Bus Transportation Forms Remember to submit before July 15 th so you don't forget over the summer months! Available on the district website! 			2 nd Grade Transition Visit	Library Books Due 	
		BOE Mtg. 6:30 PM		2 nd Grade Field Trip 	
8	9	10	11	12	13
		1 st Grade Bubble Day 	2 nd Grade AKG Trip 	Flag Day Wear red, white, and blue! 	
		PS PTO Mtg. - 6:30			
15	16	17	18	19	20
	Parade of Graduates 	1 st Grade Field Trip explore & more 	Kindergarten Celebration (Glen Colton) 	Juneteenth NO SCHOOL	
	Spirit Day: wear blue & gold! 	Kindergarten Sprinkler Day 	Early Dismissal 11:00 AM		
22	23	24	25	26	27
Field Day 	2 nd Grade Aloha Day 		Last Day of School! 11:00 AM Dismissal 		



June PTO Newsletter



HELLO ALDEN PRIMARY FAMILIES!

It feels like this year just began, but somehow our kiddos stand a little taller, a little more independent, and a little-- no, scratch that-- a **lot** smarter! Save those tissues for later though, because we have SO MUCH FUN coming up before the last bell rings for summer break!

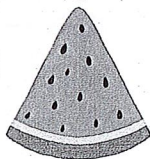


June Calendar at a Glance

- 6/2: Primary Post/Book Barn
- 6/4: 2nd Grade Visit to the Intermediate School
- 6/5: 2nd Grade Field Trip
- 6/10 **LAST PTO Meeting**

& New Board Vote 6:30 PM

- 6/17: 1st Grade Field Trip & Pre-K Picnic
- 6/18: Early Dismissal K-5 & Kindergarten Celebration
- 6/19: Juneteenth- No School
- 6/22: Field Day
- 6/23: 2nd Grade Aloha Day
- 6/24: Pink Cow Ice Cream Day (from PTO)
- 6/25: LAST DAY- Early Dismissal K-5



We Need You!

We're already looking ahead to next school year and are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to serve as fun night coordinators, fundraising chairs, and so much more! Our PTO plays an important role in supporting students, teachers, and school events—and **we can't do it without dedicated parents and caregivers.**

If you're interested in getting more involved, and making a positive impact at our school, we'd love to hear from you! No prior experience is necessary—just a willingness to help and collaborate.

If you'd like to learn more please come to our next meeting or contact us at aldenprimarypto@gmail.com. We hope you'll consider joining our team!

COME VOTE OUR NEW BOARD AT OUR LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR, AND SEE WHAT IS IN STORE FOR NEXT YEAR!

May PTO Meeting Minutes

Follow the QR code to see what was discussed at our last meeting—hope you can join us in June!



Volunteers Needed!

The kids need your help! Sign up today!

Field Day
6/22



BULLDOG DASH RE-CAP!

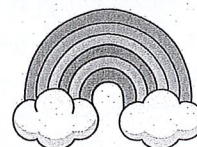
Thanks to your PAW-SOME efforts, we were able to raise over

\$6,000!!

This is AMAZING and we are so grateful for such an incredible school community!



Follow to access
all of the amazing
photos
taken by
Mr. Rick Penny



June PTO Meeting

Wednesday June 10th at 6:30 in Library.

Come meet other parents, hear about upcoming events, and share your ideas. We'd love to see you there! KIDDOS WELCOME!

STAY CONNECTED! FOLLOW US!



/aldenprimarypto

Remind: Enter this Number- 81010

Text this Message: @7cd7398

Calling All Future Champions!

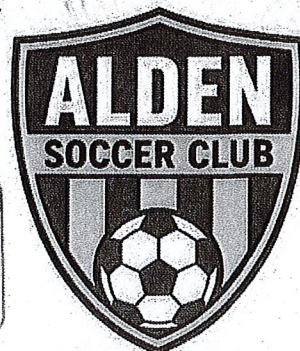
ALDEN UNDER-8

GIRLS TRAVEL SOCCER!

• **PLAY. GROW. BELONG.** •



**BUILD SKILLS.
MAKE FRIENDS.
HAVE FUN!**



BIRTHDAY RANGE:

8/1/2018 – 12/31/2019



**INTERESTED?
CONTACT CHRIS TODAY!**

Chrisresetarits23@gmail.com

716-698-3601



ALDEN TRAVEL SOCCER IS GROWING!

We are looking to form an Under-8 Girls team for late 2026 into 2027 for those with birthdays between 8/1/2018 and 12/31/2019.

We will start lightly practicing in Fall 2026. I have coached house and travel soccer for over 10 years.

We will have weekly (or less!) practices, and we will play 10 games (half home, half away) in the Buffalo WNY Junior Soccer League (5/10/27 – 8/1/2027).

Travel will be local, and many of the teams we play will be from similar sized towns (and future Alden HS opponents).



**TEAMWORK MAKES
DREAMS WORK!**



**PLEASE...CONTACT ME ASAP
IF YOUR DAUGHTER IS INTERESTED.**

WHY TRAVEL SOCCER?



DEVELOP SKILLS

Improve fundamentals and build confidence!



MAKE FRIENDS

Be part of a team and create lasting memories!



STAY ACTIVE

Have fun, build character and learn teamwork!

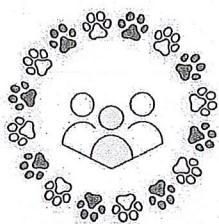


PLAY CLOSE TO HOME

Local travel with teams from our community!



**SPOTS ARE LIMITED –
LET'S BUILD SOMETHING
AMAZING TOGETHER!**



ALDEN FAMILY CENTER

The Alden Family Center offers short-term mental health assistance, basic needs support, referrals to community resources, and wellness or educational programming throughout the school year.

Stay up to Date



Remind
Class code @46eeka

Located in the Middle School,
13250 Park St., 716-937-9116 x2158
mhoward@aldenschools.org



June 2026

"Transitions in life can offer opportunities for discovery." – Robbie Shell

Center Spotlight: Life After High School



Last week we invited former Alden graduates to come in and talk to current students about their lives after graduating from Alden. The former graduates had varying backgrounds and provided valuable insights and advice to those who attended. It is not only interesting to hear what students learned from their high school experiences, but also how they used those experiences to move forward in their lives, have successes and setbacks, and still thrive. They described how extracurriculars (band, sports, and Bulldog Manufacturing) influenced their paths and discussed highlights and challenges such as gaining independence, managing time, travel opportunities, budgeting, and increased academic responsibility.

Monthly Focus: Finding Balance for Kids Over the Summer



For many kids, summer brings no school, sunny days, and later bedtimes. While we want children to unwind and have fun, they also thrive and feel secure. Keeping some structure through the summer supports their well-being and eases the return to school.

Here are some tips to try:

- Have set bedtimes, wake up times, and routines. The times may not be as early as during the school year but should be consistent throughout the summer if possible.
- Try to have your kids eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner at the same time each day.
- Have a visible schedule - Kids know when activities are happening throughout the week and aren't caught off guard.
- Try to keep the rules and chore charts. Kids still understand the expectations in the summer; this can help avoid power struggles and maintain a positive relationship.
- Get children linked with summer activities such as summer camps, community groups or, sports – This helps with keeping active and social over the summer.
- Start getting back into the school year routine before school starts.
- Most importantly, have fun with them!

For more ways to find balance during the summer, click [here](#).

Community Impact: Book-It Program: Summer of Stories

Where: Local Pizza Hut locations

This summer reading program encourages kids to keep up with their reading over the summer months. During June, July, and August, any child that meets their parent-set reading goals can earn a free Pizza Hut® single topping Personal Pan Pizza® from participating locations. Parents and caregivers can use the BOOK IT!® Mobile App to set goals, track progress, and redeem rewards. To learn more about the program, download the app, and register, click [here](#) or visit their website at <https://www.bookitprogram.com/>



Local Library Summer Programming

Check out the Alden Family Center website for links to local library summer programming by clicking [here](#).

Important Dates:

Wednesday, June 10th & 17th from 430pm-530pm

Summer Food Bag Pick-up

The Family Center will be closed during the summer months, and all food items from the Family Center's emergency food supply will be donated to the local food pantry. Before we donate our food supply, we would like to offer families an extra bag of non-perishable food items to those who may benefit. If you wish to request a food bag, please complete this [form](#) or contact the Family Center by email or phone. **If you cannot make these times, please contact the Family Center to set up an appointment.** These requests are handled confidentially and will not be shared with anyone outside of the Family Center.

Summer 2026 Recreation & Leisure Guide



Looking for something to do this summer?

Here is the 2026 Recreation and Leisure Guide provided by the [Parent Network of WNY](#). Click [here](#) to view.



Parent & Caregiver Podcasts

Here are some great podcasts to check out this month.

These episodes are between 30–45 minutes long and address topics relevant to people who are raising children today. Click a title to listen.

"How to Help Your Child Build Healthy Self-Esteem" with Dr. Jenny Louie: Listen to a discussion on how self-esteem develops and practical ways to support your child at home, in school, and in everyday life.

"Best of Ask Lisa: Tween and Teen Friendship Breakups & Conflict": Listen to wisdom from clinical psychologist Dr. Lisa Damour on friendship conflict to help parents understand what's happening beneath the surface of tween and teen friend drama and give you the tools to help your kid through it.

Building Connections

This month we will be highlighting:

Erie Path app

What is it?

Erie Path is Erie County's new smartphone app that helps parents and caregivers find available programs and services for children and adolescents, access information that explains what their children may face, and explore practical strategies for helping the children and adolescents in their care.

Erie Path also includes resources for adult mental and behavioral health services, and information on housing, employment, childcare, food pantries, medical care, social services, and senior services that can benefit adults and caregivers.

Who does it serve?

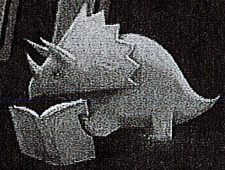
Anyone can access the app and it is free to download.

Getting Connected:

Visit the website to download the app by clicking [here](#) or go to <https://www3.erie.gov/mentalhealth/erie-path>.



UNEARTH A STORY™



Unearth a Story: REPCO Reptile Encounters

Join REPCO Wildlife for an adventure back in time! See reptiles from around the world as you learn all about their connection to the prehistoric world.

All ages; best for 4 and up
Tues., August 11 @ 2—3 PM

Passport to Reading 2026

Can you visit all 37 Buffalo & Erie County Library locations this summer? Pick up your reading passport at any B&ECPL location and start earning passport stickers today!

All ages!
May 1—August 21

Summer Reading Program

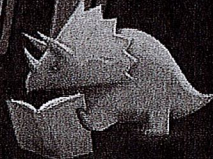
June 27 through Aug. 29
Come on in and sign up for our library's Summer Reading program and earn badges all summer long!

All ages; registration is required

Alden Ewell Free Library hours

Monday 9 AM-5 PM
Tuesday noon-7 PM
Wednesday 9 AM-5 PM
Thursday noon-7 PM
Friday closed
Saturday 9 AM-2 PM

UNEARTH A STORY™



The Great Dinosaur Discovery Show

A fast-paced, interactive program with comedy, magic, juggling, stunts, and more with audience favorite Checkers the Inventor!

All ages; best for families with school-age children

Thurs., July 9 @ 2 -3 PM
registration required

Ancient Plants with the Botanical Gardens

What plants did dinosaurs eat? Explore fascinating fossils and learn all about plant evolution. Make your own "fossil" to take home!

All ages; best for school age children

Wed., July 29 @ 2-3 PM
Registration required

Lego Free Build Night

5/21, 6/18, 7/16, 8/20
(Thursdays) @ 5-6:30 PM

Drop in and create your own Lego masterpiece! Creations to be displayed in the library until the next build night.

Ages 6 and up; younger architects may participate with caregiver supervision

No registration required

Pokémon Club

5/23, 6/13, 7/11, 8/15 (Saturdays)
@ 11 AM- 12 PM

Learn to battle and trade cards with friends

Prebuilt decks will be available or bring your own!

Ages 6 and up; 8 and under must be accompanied by a caregiver

Registration required
(register children only, please)



ALDEN CSD 20__-20__ REQUEST FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION



If we do not receive a form, your child will NOT be routed on a bus.

Return this form to one of the following: 1. Central Registrar w/Registration
2. Email: alden_transportation@aldenschools.org
3. Fax: 716-937-3486

Student's Name: _____ School Building: _____

Birth Date: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Instructions: Use one (1) form per student. In the event your bus needs change during the year and/or you need transportation at any point, you may fill out a new request form.

Student's Primary Residence

Alternate Location (maximum one)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Street: _____ Relationship: _____

City/Zip: _____ Street: _____

Phone: _____ City/Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please check the appropriate choice below. We DO NOT accept calendars or alternating schedules.

All requests must be consistent days and locations.

MORNING PICK-UP (check days needed)

Occasional Walker: ☐

☐ PARENT will Transport Every AM ☐ or M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F ☐

☐ PRIMARY Residence Every AM ☐ or M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F ☐

☐ ALTERNATE Location Every AM ☐ or M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F ☐

AFTERNOON DROP-OFF (check days needed)

Occasional Walker: ☐

☐ PARENT will Transport Every PM ☐ or M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F ☐

☐ PRIMARY Residence Every PM ☐ or M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F ☐

☐ ALTERNATE Location Every PM ☐ or M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ TH ☐ F ☐

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Requested Start Date _____

Office Use Only

Date Received _____

AM Bus# _____ PM Bus # _____ Date Entered _____ Date Notified _____ Date School _____