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Charter Schools Division 2021-22 Annual Report

School Name: Aldo Leopold Charter School

School Address: 410 W, 10th St. Silver City, NM 88061

Head Administrator: Dr. Anthony Smith

Governing Board Chair: Alexandra Tager

Business Manager: Melissa Frost

Authorized Grade Levels: 6 – 12

Authorized Enrollment: 210

2021-22 End of Year Enrollment: 153

Contract Term: 2020-2025

Mission: At Aldo Leopold Charter School, the human and natural environments serve as text and lab for learning through direct experience, inquiry, and stewardship.

About the School

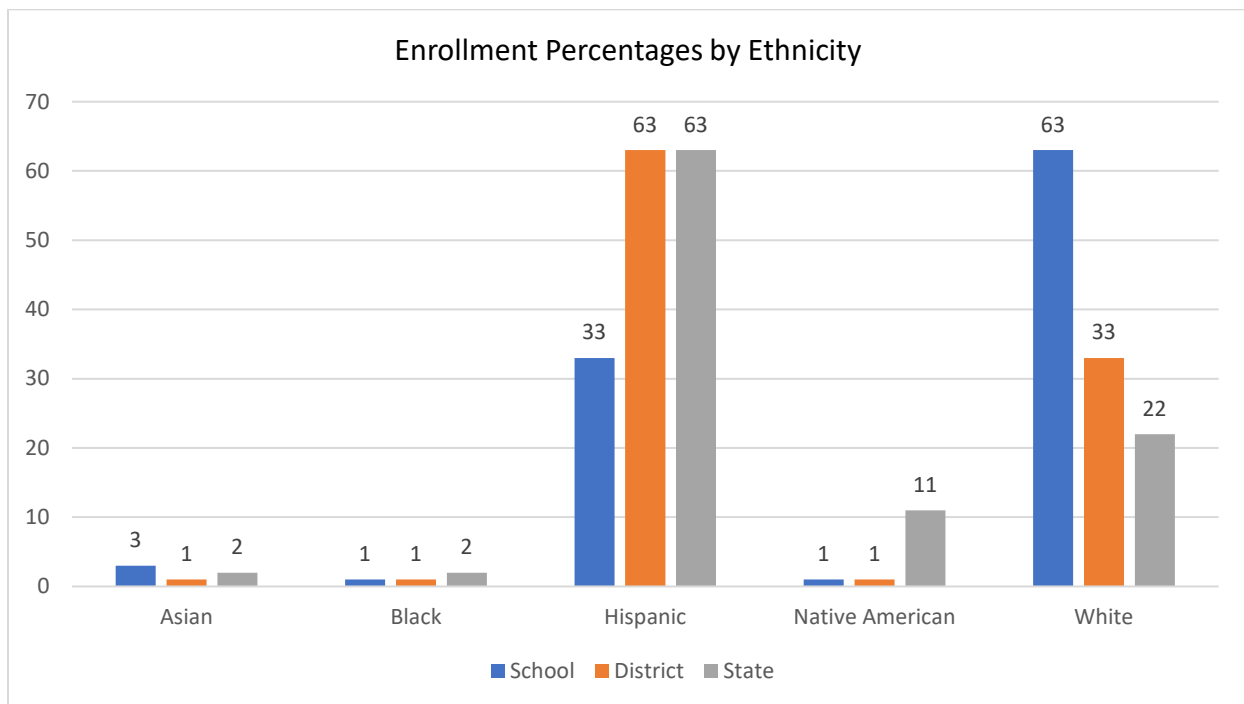
Aldo Leopold Charter School was originally authorized by Silver Consolidated Schools but became a PEC-authorized charter school in 2010. The school has a relationship with the non-profit Aldo Leopold Charter School Foundation, whose primary purpose is to provide financial support to the school or leases the facility for the charter school.

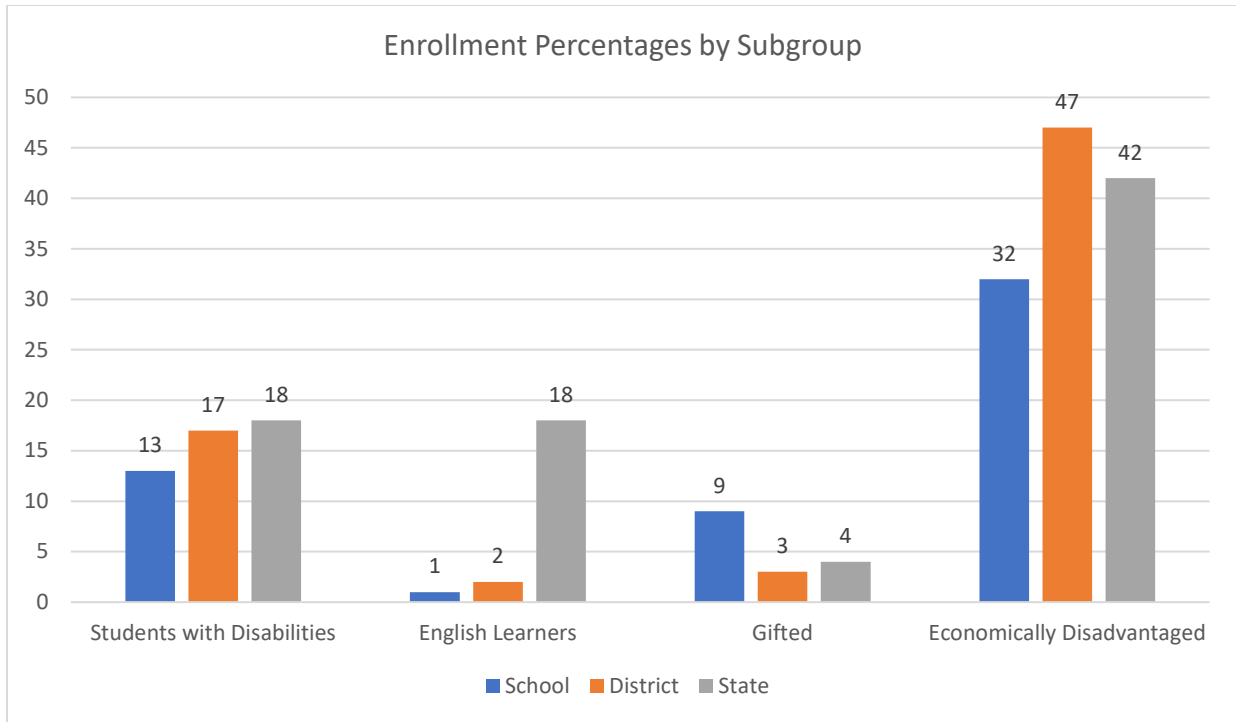
Experiential learning is foundational and part of Aldo Leopold's mission, where human and natural environments serve as texts and labs for learning through direct experience, inquiry,

and stewardship. Lesson plans and yearly inquiry-driven projects engage students in empiricism, creative arts, and/or innate curiosities. Students develop leadership and survival skills while building academic proficiency in the process. There are weekly off-campus learning experiences to include community orientation and introduction to the natural environment (Grades 6-9) and community internships and Youth Conversation Corps opportunities are available for older students. Field trips, including overnight or backpacking trips into the Gila Wilderness are an essential part of the school’s curriculum.

All staff receive professional development to include First Aid, CPR, Risk Management, and utilizing Restorative Practices. Instructional staff also have the opportunity for professional development in Wilderness First Responders and training with the Association for Experiential Education.

Demographics as reported in STARS 2021-22 End of Year (EOY)





Academic Performance

Academic Performance Framework Indicators	2021-22 Score (100 points possible)
1: State Accountability System: NMVISTAS Overall Score	65
2: Subgroup Performance: high, middle, and low-performing quartiles	Not calculated by PED for 2021-22
3: School-specific Goals: if two goals, average of points on each goal	80
Overall Academic Score: average of Indicators 1 and 3	73

State Accountability System

The New Mexico State Accountability System gives every public school in the state an overall score. The top 25% of schools are designated Spotlight schools.

Schools were ranked by percentile within school type, with high schools being ranked separately from elementary and middle schools because of differences in how points are calculated (e.g., graduation factoring into high school but not elementary school accountability).

Schools below the 75th percentile are designated either a Traditional Support School or are given one of several designations indicating a need for greater support:

- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI): Public Schools (Title I and non-Title I) with one or more student groups that meet the state's definition of consistently underperforming
- Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI): Public Schools (Title I) with one or more student groups performing as poorly as the lowest performing 5 percent of Title I schools identified for CSI
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Student Group: Title I schools that were previously identified for additional targeted support and improvement and that did not meet the statewide criteria for exiting ATSI status within the number of years determined by the state
- CSI – Graduation Rate: All public high schools in the state (Title I) with a four-year graduation rate below 66.67% for at least two out of the past three years
- CSI – Low Performing: Schools scoring in the bottom 5% of all Title I schools
- More Rigorous Intervention (MRI): If a CSI School does not satisfy exit criteria within the identification cycle, they are identified as MRI.

Aldo Leopold Charter School ranked above **87.2%** of high schools statewide. The school received a designation of **Spotlight school**.

Proficiency

In prior years, Early Literacy (ELIT) data from the Istation assessment administered to grades K-2 was aggregated into an overall reading proficiency score. In 2021-22, Istation data are provided as a separate metric (ELIT). Only schools that serve grades K-2 will include ELIT data.

Because science is assessed only in grades 5, 8, and 11, schools that do not serve these grades have no science proficiency data.

Data are masked as follows in the charts shown below:

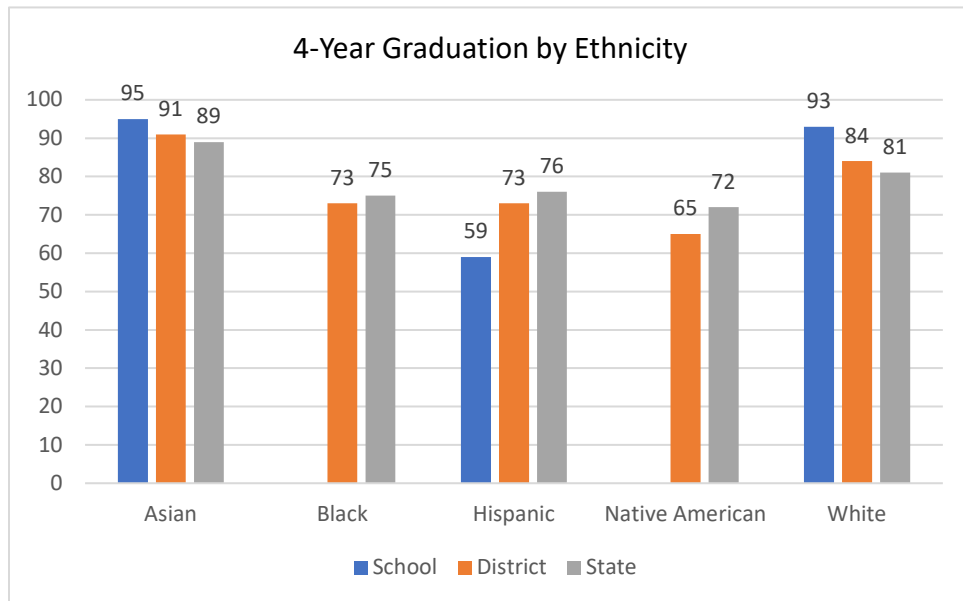
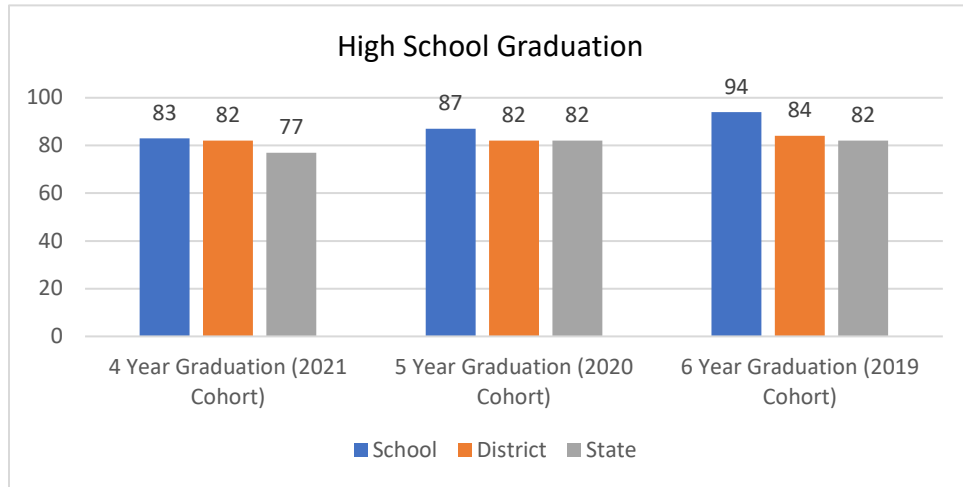
Students	Percentages Given	Data Masking
N = 0		<p>Examples:</p> <p>In a group of 17 students, if the proficiency was 3% the chart would show $\leq 20\%$ and if it was 98% it would show $\geq 80\%$.</p> <p>In a group of 59 students, if the proficiency was 3% the chart would show $\leq 5\%$ and if it was 98% the chart would show $\geq 95\%$.</p>
N < 10	*****	
N = 10-20	20% to 80%	
N= 21-40	10% to 90%	
N = 41-100	5% to 95%	
N = 101-300	2% to 98%	
N > 300	1% to 100%	

Subgroup Proficiencies			
	Reading	Math	Science
All	61%	26%	72%
Asian	*****	*****	*****
Black			
Hispanic	43%	*****	59%
Native	*****	*****	
White	68%	33%	85%
SwD	*****		*****
EL			
FRL	56%	23%	77%

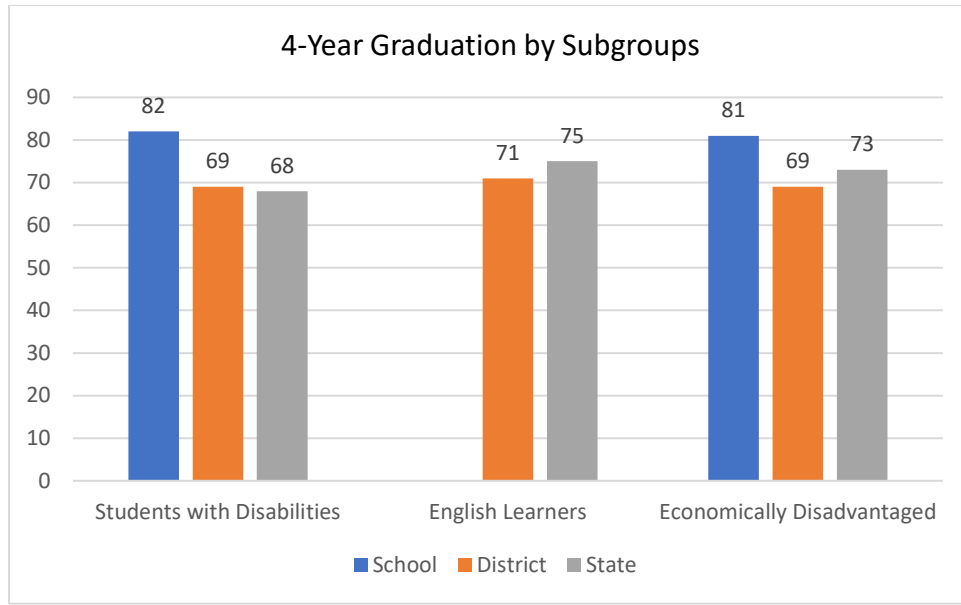
English Learner Progress toward Proficiency: 100%

High School Graduation

Data refer to prior year cohorts, with the most recent 4-year graduation data available for the 2021 graduation cohort, 5-year data for the 2020 cohort, and 6-year data for the 2019 cohort. The 4-year, 5-year, and 6-year graduation rates for these years are provided with comparative data for the state and district. The 4-year rate is then disaggregated by ethnicity and student group.



Note: The school-level percentage for the Asian category is $\geq 95\%$ in order to mask data due to student population size.



Mission-Specific Goals

Goal 1: All students at Aldo Leopold Charter School (ALCS) participate in experiential education. 75% of students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day will score at or above their grade level expectation or the score determined in a Special Education student’s IEP on the school’s rubric for Ownership and Collaboration in Experiential Learning. All students at Aldo Leopold Charter School (ALCS) will have the opportunity to participate in experiential learning in the human and natural environments (outside of the school building) using direct experience, inquiry, and stewardship for a minimum of 100 hours per semester. The school’s rubric is used to evaluate students’ level of participation and engagement during these hours of experiential education

Performance Level	Target	Points
Exceeds Standard	More than 90% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day score at or above the expectation for their grade level on the school’s rubric for Ownership and Collaboration in experiential learning.	100
Meets Standard	75% - 90% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day score at or above the expectation for their grade level on the school’s rubric for Ownership and Collaboration in experiential learning.	75
Does Not Meet Standard	50% - 74% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day score at or above the expectation for their grade level on the school’s rubric for Ownership and Collaboration in experiential learning.	25
Falls Far Below Standard	Less than 50% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day score at or above the expectation for their grade level on the school’s rubric for Ownership and Collaboration in experiential learning.	0

Rating: Meets Standard (81%)

Goal 2: Aldo Leopold Charter School students will respond to their experiential learning through writing and formal discussion. 70% of students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day will score at or above their grade level expectation or the score determined in a Special Education student’s IEP on the school’s rubric for Skills of Reflection in Experiential Learning. Student responses, either oral or written, will be drawn from their experiences outside the classroom.

Performance Level	Target	Points
Exceeds Standard	More than 80% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day will score at or above the expectation for their grade level identified in the school’s rubric for Response Skills in Experiential Learning.	100
Meets Standard	70% - 80% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day will score at or above the expectation for their grade level identified in the school’s rubric for Response Skills in Experiential Learning.	75
Does Not Meet Standard	50% - 69% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day will score at or above the expectation for their grade level identified in the school’s rubric for Response Skills in Experiential Learning.	25
Falls Far Below Standard	Less than 50% of ALCS students enrolled on the 40th and 120th day will score at or above the expectation for their grade level identified in the school’s rubric for Response Skills in Experiential Learning.	0

Rating: Meets Standard (79%)

Organizational and Financial Performance Framework

2021-22 Overall Rating: Does Not Meet Standard

Pursuant to the [PEC Performance Framework and Accountability System \(2019\)](#), schools receive ratings of **Meets Standard**, **Working to Meet Standard**, or **Does Not Meet Standard** for individual indicators in the framework. Explanations for any rating other than Meets Standard are provided below.

The school also receives an overall rating of either **Meets Standard** or **Does Not Meet Standard** for the year. If a school receives a **Does Not Meet Standard** rating for three or more indicators, it will receive an overall rating of **Does Not Meet Standard**.

Aldo Leopold Charter School	2020-21	2021-22
Organizational and Financial Performance		
1a Mission and Educational Program	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
1b State Assessment Requirements	Not Reviewed	Working to Meet Standard
1c Rights of Students with Disabilities	Working to Meet Standard	Meets Standard
1d Rights of English Learners	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
1e Meeting Program Requirements	Assurances	Meets Standard
1f NM DASH Plan	N/A	N/A
2a Financial Reporting and Compliance	Working to Meet Standard	Meets Standard
2b Accounting Principles	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
2c Responsive to Audit Findings	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
2d Managing Grant Funds	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
2e Staffing for Fiscal Management	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
2f Internal Controls	Working to Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
3a Governance Requirements	Working to Meet Standard	Working to Meet Standard
3b Nepotism, Conflict of Interest	Assurances	Meets Standard
3c Reporting Requirements	Assurances	Does Not Meet Standard
4a Rights of All Students	Assurances	Working to Meet Standard
4b Attendance and Retention	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
4c Staff Credentialing	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
4d Employee Rights	Assurances	Meets Standard
4e Background Checks, Ethics	Assurances	Meets Standard
5a Facilities	Assurances	Working to Meet Standard
5b Transportation	Assurances	N/A
5c Health and Safety	Assurances	Meets Standard
5d Handling Information	Assurances	Meets Standard

Explanation of 2021-22 Indicator Ratings

- 1.b. Science participation 92%. Target is 95% for all assessments.
- 2.b. Significant Deficiency audit finding for FY21.
- 2.c. Five repeat audit findings for FY21.
- 2.e. Did not provide governing board finance and audit committee members.
- 2.f. Audit finding for late payments to ERB and RHC.
- 3.a. Not all governing board members have completed required training hours. Some but not all audit committee members attend exit interview.
- 3.c. Three or more untimely submissions of amendment requests.
- 4.a. Lottery policy largely meets CSD standards.

5.a. Submit School Safety Improvement Plan for 2021-2022 to the state and Upload evidence of submission.