



Dear Livingston School Community:

As you are aware, Governor John Bel Edwards issued a proclamation on Friday (March 13) closing all public schools in the state from March 16 to April 13 as a preventive measure to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The release of information and updates in plans seemed to change almost hourly, as national and state officials grappled with the situation and determining the best course of action.

Since the governor's announcement at 1 p.m. Friday, our administration has responded swiftly to coordinate a comprehensive plan of action that protects the safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff, and that delivers quality instruction and much-needed services to our students during this proclamation period. It is my intent to communicate our plans of action on a regular, timely basis, so **ALL** our school community members can move forward in a cohesive manner to navigate this challenge.

With that said, I am confident that the determination and resolve of the people of Livingston Parish will enable us to successfully manage and overcome this challenge just as those qualities proved solid in the aftermath of the 2016 flood. In many ways, our community is no stranger to "unchartered" situations – we know we have the mettle to stand strong in difficult times!

I want to share with you our most immediate action plans for Monday (March 16) and Tuesday (March 17). It is my intent to share more detailed information on our remote instructional plans and limited delivery of food and emergency services following our scheduled meetings on Tuesday.

Monday, March 16 –

- All district employees will report to their regularly assigned work locations throughout the parish.
- All teachers and instructional employees who were regularly scheduled for professional development at the Suma Professional Development Center will report for those classes as planned.
- Central office staff will meet at the Livingston Parish School Board Office to finalize a framework for schools to provide remote instruction and take-home resources for all their students. The district will utilize a blended model of digital resources and printed resources to deliver instructional material and guidelines to students during the proclamation period.
- All busses will be clustered at their school sites for a thorough cleaning and disinfecting.

- All food service employees will work with central office coordinators to finalize an altered food service plan for those students in need of regular meals. While the services will be limited, the district is committed to addressing the greatest needs in each community.
- School leaders and department directors will determine a plan for continuing applicable emergency services.

Tuesday, March 17 –

- All district employees will report to their regularly assigned work locations throughout the parish. Bus drivers should contact the transportation department to determine the status of the cleaning of their busses, and to determine how they may be utilized in the delivery of services during the proclamation period.
- All principals will meet with central office staff at the Suma Professional Development Center at 8:30 a.m. to discuss and organize plans of implementation of the district's framework for remote instruction.
- The district and individual schools will announce action plans its blended model of instruction, including a timeline of when parents and students can expect to receive the materials for the "first day" of remote learning.

I know the abrupt changes, added work and lingering concerns created by the COVID-19 closures have brought greater worries and logistical difficulties for many of you. "Because the nature of this event is very fluid, all decisions and announced action plans will be subject to review as circumstances potentially change, and adjustments will be made for the best interest of all stakeholders. But I remain confident, that as we work together, supporting one another, we will overcome whatever circumstances confront us. Livingston Parish has a strong track record of turning challenges into opportunities.

At all times, please take the proper actions to keep yourself and your family safe from the spread of the virus, and please avoid spreading rumors through the sharing of unverified information. We will be diligent in posting official updates and notifications on the district website, www.lpsb.org, and through our social media feeds.

Now, more than ever, let's be Livingston M.A.D.E. -- Making A Difference EveryDay!

Respectfully,

Joe Murphy

Joe Murphy, Superintendent
Livingston Parish Public Schools