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**NEWS RELEASE**

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Contact: Delia A. Taylor, APR at 225-931-0286 or taylormedia11@gmail.com, or Superintendent Joe Murphy at 225-686-7044 or alan.murphy@lpsb.org.

**Livingston Schools Announce “Late Arrival” Plan in Preparation of Winter Weather Days**

**LIVINGSTON, La.** – Livingston Parish Public School officials today announced that the district plans to enact a “late arrival” schedule as necessary during the winter months to avoid the loss of learning days.

Assistant Superintendent Stephen Parrill noted that the school system in past years has had to cancel school days due to icy weather conditions, as driving during early mornings on such days can present a safety hazard. To avoid losing educational time this year, the district has established a “late arrival” schedule that delays the start of school on those days, allowing students to avoid poor travel conditions during early morning hours, yet engage in a day of learning.

Parrill said the plan on those days may be to delay the start of school by two or three hours – meaning, if a school’s start time is regularly 7 a.m., then it would move to 9 a.m. on a two-hour delay, or to 10 a.m. on a three-hour delay. The same scenario will be used for bus pick-up times. If a child’s regular bus pick-up time is 6:30 a.m., then it would move to 8:30 a.m. with a two-hour delayed start, or to 9:30 a.m. with a three-hour delay.

In either scenario, Parrill said breakfast would not be served; however, the lunch schedules and dismissal schedules would remain the same.

Parrill said the preset “late arrival” schedules will be posted on each school’s website, the district website at [www.lpsb.org](http://www.lpsb.org), and on the district’s social media platforms. He noted that school officials hope to announce any schedule changes a day in advance of being instituted to give employees, parents, and students time to make any personal schedule adjustments that may be necessary.

“Advance notice is always a best case and preferred scenario, but it is not always available to us,” he said.

“Planning for weather in Louisiana can be a monumental task, as our area is impacted by a long hurricane season, followed by several months of unpredictable winter precipitation. Add to that mix the potential loss of learning due to the COVID pandemic and you can see why it is necessary that we institute changes to potentially save learning days,” Parrill said.

Parrill noted that in past years the district has had to extend the school year to “make up” learning days lost. He said that option often presents problems with family travel plans, as well as end-of-year ceremonies and job options for graduating seniors. Other options have been to elongate the learning days by adding minutes to each class period.

“It is our hope that this plan will allow our students to receive each day of learning they deserve and to do it in a way that creates the least disruption for everyone,” Parrill said.

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