



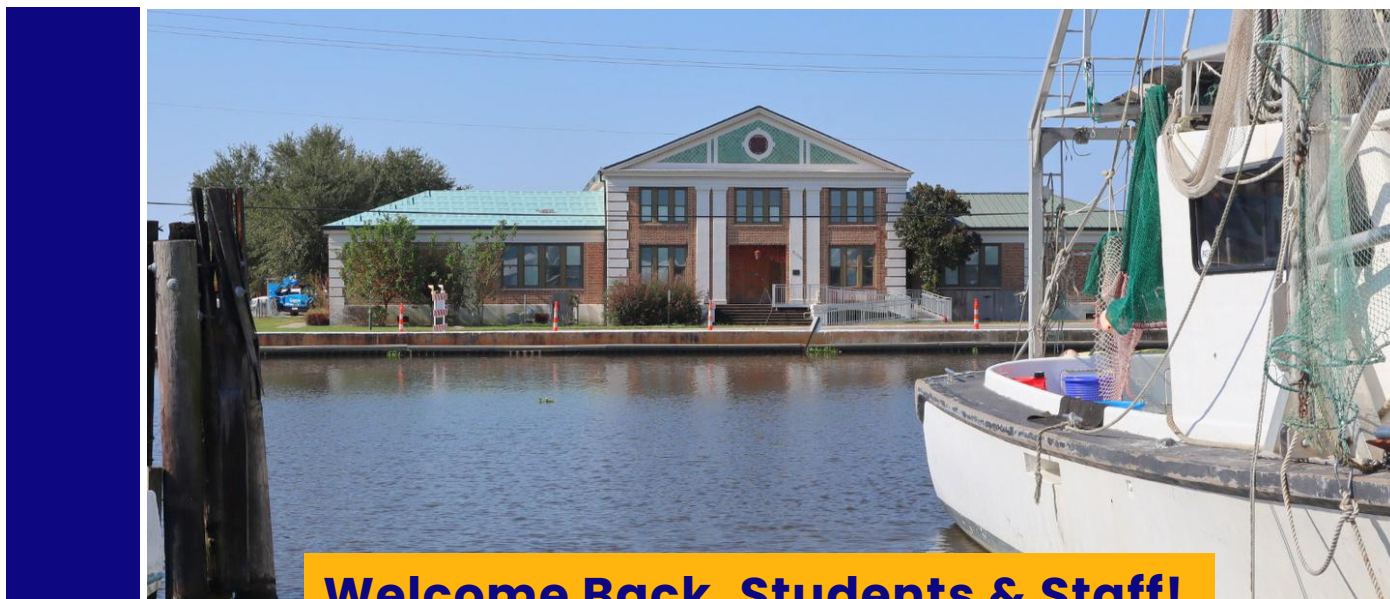
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# THE CURRENT

News and Updates from

**LAFOURCHE PARISH  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

THIRD QUARTER 2025



## Welcome Back, Students & Staff!

Dear Parents, Students, Employees, and Friends of the Lafourche Parish School District,

The opening of the 2025-2026 school year is here, and we are incredibly excited! As we prepare to welcome everyone back, we want to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the principles that have consistently led to high student achievement across Lafourche Parish.

We firmly believe in providing high-quality instruction in schools that are not only welcoming but also foster truly positive atmospheres. We also know that a rich student experience includes vibrant extra- and co-curricular activities. Every decision made within our schools is driven by one central goal: student success.

Our continued success is a direct result of the strong partnership we share with our parents and the wonderful community we serve. We strongly encourage you to stay active and engaged in your child's learning journey.

The best ways to do this are by connecting with your child's school through their Facebook page and website, and by ensuring the school always has your most up-to-date contact information. Having accurate contact details is vital for us to stay in touch with you. We truly need and value your partnership in shaping the educational experiences for your child. Our doors are always open, and we welcome your questions, ideas, and constructive feedback.

Thank you for your trust and support as we embark on this new chapter together. We are honored to serve as your dedicated educational partners and eagerly look forward to a year filled with growth, achievement, and memorable moments.

Sincerely,

Jarod W. Martin  
Superintendent of Schools

## More Than Just Paperwork: *Why Those First-Day Forms Matter*

As we prepare for the first day of school, we know that your child will be coming home with a packet full of important forms and paperwork. While it may seem like a lot to tackle, completing and returning these forms promptly is one of the most important steps you can take to ensure a smooth and successful start to the school year for your child.

This paperwork is not just administrative; it contains critical information that allows our schools to provide the best possible care and education for your student. Here's why it's so important to complete and return every form:

- **Emergency Contact Information:** This is perhaps the most crucial information we collect. In the event of an emergency, we need to be able to reach you or another designated contact immediately. Up-to-date phone numbers and addresses are essential for your child's safety.
- **Medical Information:** Forms related to your child's health, including allergies, medications, and any specific health conditions, are vital. This information allows our school nurses and staff to be prepared to handle any medical needs and ensure your child's well-being throughout the day.
- **Student Data and Demographics:** Accurate information helps the district and state with funding and resource allocation. It ensures our schools are receiving the necessary support to serve our student population effectively.

We understand that you have busy schedules, but we kindly ask that you make completing this paperwork a top priority. Please review each form carefully, fill it out completely, and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Doing so helps us keep our records accurate and ensures that we have all the information needed to provide a safe, healthy, and enriching learning environment from day one.

Thank you for your cooperation and for your commitment to a great school year. We look forward to partnering with you to make the 2025-26 school year a fantastic one for all our students.

## The Power of Being Present: *Every School Day Counts*

It may seem simple, but being at school every day, on time, is one of the most powerful tools for your child's academic and social development. When a child misses a day, they're not just missing a lesson; they're missing an opportunity to build on previous knowledge, engage with their peers, and connect with their teachers.

Missing a day here and there may not seem like much, but absences quickly add up. When a student misses two days a month beginning in kindergarten, that adds up to 20 days a year and the equivalent of almost a year and a half of learning lost by the time they reach graduation.

Every school day is part of a larger, interconnected learning journey. Teachers plan lessons to build on one another, so missing even a single day can create gaps in understanding. These small gaps can grow into larger problems over time, making it harder for a child to keep up with their classmates. Consistent attendance ensures your child receives all the direct instruction and practice they need to master new concepts.

Developing a habit of good attendance now sets your child up for future success. It teaches them the importance of responsibility and commitment—skills that are essential for future endeavors, from high school to college and beyond. By prioritizing school attendance, you're not just supporting their education; you're helping them build a strong work ethic that will serve them for a lifetime.

We understand that sometimes absences are unavoidable due to illness or family emergencies. However, we encourage you to make school attendance a top priority. Let's work together to ensure every child has the chance to thrive and succeed.



**Here Today, Ready for Tomorrow!**



## Free School Meal Program Renewed for This Year

We are pleased to announce that all elementary and middle school students will once again receive free breakfast and lunch through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program.

This means that all students at eligible elementary and middle schools will automatically receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost to their families. There is no need for parents to fill out a Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application.

The CEP program is a federally funded initiative that allows schools and districts with a high concentration of low-income students to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students. This eliminates meal debt and allows our Child Nutrition staff to focus on serving healthy, appealing meals to every student.

We believe that a well-fed child is better prepared to learn, and we are proud to continue our participation in this important program. Providing these meals is a crucial part of our commitment to the health, well-being, and academic success of all our students. For any questions regarding the CEP program, please contact the LPSD Child Nutrition department.

## Transportation Dept. Upgrades Help Ensure a Smooth Ride

The Transportation Department has worked hard all summer to finalize bus routes and procedures for the 2025-26 school year, implementing new technologies to enhance safety and efficiency.

With student safety a top priority, the district has implemented new, state-of-the-art camera systems on all school buses. These systems will provide real-time monitoring inside and outside the buses, creating a safer environment for students and drivers alike. These cameras are part of a broader effort to ensure accountability and provide a secure travel experience for every student.

You may notice some changes to bus routes and stops this year. This year's bus routes have been created using advanced new routing software that allows the district to create the most efficient routes possible, minimizing rider time while maintaining safety standards.

Start times for each morning route remain unchanged:

- 6:00 a.m. - High school routes(+SWMS)
- 6:45 a.m. - Middle school routes (+BBES & GES)
- 7:30 a.m. - Elementary school routes

These route times are a general guide, and parents should be aware that the first week or two of school may see some variations in pickup and drop-off times as drivers adjust to new schedules and stops. The district encourages students to be at their designated bus stop at least ten minutes before the scheduled arrival time.

## WHAT'S COMING UP

- |                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Aug. 6</b>   | Public Hearing – Budget       |
| <b>Aug. 6</b>   | Board Meeting                 |
| <b>Aug. 7</b>   | Students' First Day of School |
| <b>Aug. 20</b>  | Committee Meetings            |
| <b>Sept. 1</b>  | Labor Day                     |
| <b>Sept. 2</b>  | Professional Development Day  |
| <b>Sept. 3</b>  | Board Meeting                 |
| <b>Sept. 17</b> | Committee Meetings            |





## 2025-26 Academic Calendar

In the event of school closures, holidays will be eliminated at the discretion of the Superintendent to meet the minimum number of instructional days.

July				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4 Ind Day
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

August				
M	T	W	T	F
				1 PD
4 PD	5 PD	6 Rec	7 1	8 2
11 3	12 4	13 5	14 6	15 7
18 8	19 9	20 10	21 11	22 12
25 13	26 14	27 15	28 16	29 17

September				
M	T	W	T	F
1 Labor	2 PD	3 18	4 19	5 20
8 21	9 22	10 23	11 24	12 25
15 26	16 27	17 28	18 29	19 30
22 31	23 32	24 33	25 34	26 35
29 36	30 37			

October				
M	T	W	T	F
		1 38	2 39	3 40
6 41	7 42	8 43	9 44	10 1
13 Break	14 PD	15 2	16 3	17 4
20 5	21 6	22 7	23 8	24 9
27 10	28 11	29 12	30 13	31 14

November				
M	T	W	T	F
3 15	4 16	5 17	6 18	7 19
10 20	11 21	12 22	13 23	14 24
17 25	18 26	19 27	20 28	21 29
24 25	25 Thanksgiving	26 27	27 28	28 29

December				
M	T	W	T	F
1 30	2 31	3 32	4 33	5 34
8 35	9 36	10 37	11 38	12 39
15 40	16 41	17 42	18 43	19 44
22 Christmas	23 Christmas	24 Christmas	25 Christmas	26 Christmas
29 30	30 31	31 31		

January				
M	T	W	T	F
			1 New Year	2
5 1	6 2	7 3	8 4	9 5
12 6	13 7	14 8	15 9	16 10
19 MLK	20 11	21 12	22 13	23 14
26 15	27 16	28 17	29 18	30 19

February				
M	T	W	T	F
2 20	3 21	4 22	5 23	6 24
9 25	10 26	11 27	12 28	13 29
16 23	17 30	18 31	19 32	20 33

March				
M	T	W	T	F
2 35	3 36	4 37	5 38	6 39
9 40	10 41	11 42	12 43	13 44
16 1	17 2	18 3	19 4	20 5
23 6	24 7	25 8	26 9	27 10
30 11	31 12			

April				
M	T	W	T	F
		1 13	2 14	3 15
6 16	7 17	8 18	9 19	10 20
13 21	14 22	15 23	16 24	17 25
20 26	21 27	22 28	23 29	24 30
27 31	28 1	29 2	30 3	

May				
M	T	W	T	F
				1 29
4 30	5 31	6 32	7 33	8 34
11 35	12 36	13 37	14 38	15 39
18 40	19 41	20 42	21 43	22 44
25 45	26 46	27 47	28 48	29 49

June				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

Student's first day of semester  
Progress report sent home  
Report card sent home  
End of marking period

Holidays  
Prof Development, Full Day  
Teacher records day  
Senior's Last Day

240 day employees - additional days  
Closed for summer schedule  
Summer Schedule Work Days (1 1/4)