



Superintendent's Office
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Dear Families,

At its regular meeting held on December 11, 2023, the Board of Education took action to approve of a “Universal Late Start Monday” proposal beginning with the 2024-25 school year. Essentially, what this means is that each school’s start time for students will begin 45 minutes later on every Monday when school is scheduled throughout the entire school year.

The reason for this change is to enhance the time that our professional staff members spend in their building Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), including the ability to collaborate between buildings. PLC time is a collaborative time for educators to analyze student and assessment data to identify, implement, and engage in best instructional practices that benefit our diverse student population. With the recent passage of Wisconsin Act 20 reading legislation which impacts the elementary level, many changes are anticipated for our reading program that includes the adoption of a new curriculum, additional assessment and analysis required by teaching staff, and increased parent communication. To do this well, we need to provide our teachers with strong support and key professional development opportunities. Across all grade levels, the practice of using PLC time to engage in activities that directly impact student success couldn’t be more important.

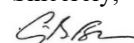
While many of our schools have had built-in early release or late start time in their schedules for quite some time, the move to a universal common time of release across all buildings in 2024-25 will provide consistency and less confusion for families. A primary reason Mondays were chosen is because there are fewer days of instruction missed due to holidays compared to other days of the week. Below you will find an example of a typical 45-minute Late Start Monday schedule. *Additional details will be shared by your child(s) individual school by the end of summer.*

WEEKLY SCHOOL SCHEDULE BASED ON LATE START MONDAYS					
School	Building Opens Mondays	School Start Time Mondays	Building Opens Tue-Fri	School Start Time Tue-Fri	School End Time <u>Mon-Fri</u>
Central Oaks Academy	9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am	4:00 pm
Grant Elementary	9:15 am	9:30 am	8:30 am	8:45 am	3:30 pm
Grove Elementary	9:10 am	9:25 am	8:20 am	8:40 am	3:30 pm
Howe Elementary	9:15 am	9:30 am	8:20 am	8:40 am	3:30 pm
Mead Elementary	9:15 am	9:30 am	8:25 am	8:40 am	3:30 pm
Pitsch Early Learning/4K	<i>Site times would be adjusted to meet transportation needs – times vary by location.</i>				
THINK Academy	9:20 am	9:35 am	8:40 am	8:50 am	3:45 pm
Washington Elementary	9:15 am	9:30 am	8:30 am	8:45 am	3:30 pm
Woodside Elementary	9:15 am	9:30 am	8:30 am	8:45 am	3:30 pm
Wisc. Rapids Area Middle School	7:30 am	7:55 am	7:00 am	7:25 am	2:40 pm
Lincoln High School	6:00 am	8:10 am	6:00 am	7:30 am	2:53 pm
River Cities High School	7:00 am	8:25 am	7:00 am	7:45 am	2:30 pm

Recognizing that families will need to consider the impact of this schedule and make some adjustments for these Late Start Mondays in the coming school year, I wanted to reach out and inform you early about these changes in order to provide plenty of time for you to begin planning. Please note that elementary families will still have access to the Morning Jumpstart program sponsored through the Boys & Girls Club (Monday-Friday from 6:45 a.m. to the start of the school day, including ON the Late Start Mondays) with an expansion of this program to include Grant Elementary in the coming year. Transportation routes will run as normal, with the exception of being 45 minutes later on Mondays.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


 Craig G. Broeren
 Superintendent