



LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD ENHANCED SCHOOL CALENDAR INITIATIVE FACT SHEET

The Issue:

Many school children throughout the United States, including some in Lincoln Parish, suffer from a nationally-recognized educational concern known as “summer learning loss,” which occurs when students are no longer exposed to educational activities and enrichment opportunities during the summer months.

- Some children “lose” up to three months of education during summer vacation, every summer, and by the time they complete fifth-grade, some students may be as much as two years behind and never advance to meet their full potential. If this education deficit is not overcome, it can affect a students’ ability to achieve in school and the workplace throughout their lives.

What Lincoln Parish is Doing:

The Lincoln Parish School Board is launching an enhanced school calendar pilot program in two Ruston elementary schools in 2018 to address “summer learning loss.” This program adds 30 additional instructional days during two summer months, while still allowing time for family vacations.

- The pilot program is entirely voluntary, but offers students an opportunity to remain in a learning environment during the summer months, which can help students continue their learning process and prevent regression.
- By adding 30 extra days of school during two summer months, students can gain an additional full year of school over a six-year period.
- Enrolled students will have three weeks off at the end of the traditional school year, one week off at Fourth of July, and two weeks off before the traditional school year begins in August.
- This program is an investment in our children, our schools and our community, and can make a life-long difference for students who might otherwise fall behind through no fault of their own.

How the Program Will Work:

The initial pilot program is designed to accommodate up to 500 students from Glen View and Cypress Springs elementary schools and will involve approximately 30 teachers. Students will have to apply for the program, and participants will be selected in a lottery if the number of applicants exceeds 500. Teachers will also have to apply, and will be selected based on need, credentials, experience and administrative evaluation.

- School bus transportation, two meals per day and coordination with after school programs will be provided; each student will also receive basic school supplies and one school uniform shirt.
- The core curriculum will be the same as during the traditional school year. This program is not “summer school” or child care – it simply is beginning school at an earlier date with a standard core curriculum, plus some enhanced opportunities.
- Once a student is accepted into the program, he or she is guaranteed a spot in subsequent years as long as their participation is continuous and they are not involved in significant disciplinary issues. If a student drops out of the program for a session, they must re-apply.

For Further Information:

Further program and enrollment information can be found at the following locations:

- Lincoln Parish School Board website: www.lincolnschools.org
- Lincoln Parish School Board offices: 410 S Farmerville St, Ruston, LA, 318-255-1430