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March 14, 2025

Dear Ladysmith Lumberjacks,

As we step into March, I've been a little uncertain if we started as a lion, or a lamb. With cold and snowy weather, to near record warm temps the following week, March continues to be a mixed bag of Wisconsin weather. However, Spring officially begins March 20 and we have many things to look forward to. So, here are just a few notes as we enter March and begin the THIRD Trimester!

Spring Break!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable spring break. The weather certainly felt like it! We begin our THIRD trimester on March 17, 2025. Note the time changes listed below.

Changes to the Start Times and Remaining 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

As mentioned in a prior communication to everyone, when the 2024-2025 calendar was adopted it included two inclement weather days. Those days were utilized during the cold days we had in January. Since then, we have experienced a two hour delay and as of March 5, two full days of school cancellation due to weather. In accordance with state regulations that are based on minutes of instruction, we are required to make up lost instructional time. With the loss of the additional day on March 5, we need to add time to our school calendar. To accomplish this we are making the following modifications:

- **Beginning on Monday, March 17, 2025** the school day at each building will be starting five (5) minutes earlier, Monday -Friday. The elementary will begin at 8:10 AM and the Middle/High School will start at 8:00 AM.
- Beginning on March 19, 2025 the Late Start Wednesdays at the middle and high school will be canceled for the remainder of the school year. On Wednesdays, the middle and high school will now start at 8:00 AM.
- April 21, 2025 will now be a full instructional day for grades 6-12. (Note: Elementary students will still not attend on this day. There is a professional development training scheduled at the elementary school on this date and can not be changed.)

4K Registration & Screening

Starting with the 2025-2026 school year Ladysmith 4K will be All Day 5-days a week! Due to the school cancellation on Wednesday, March 5 the 4K registration day and screening has been moved to March 21, 2025. If you haven't registered, there's still time! Go to our website and follow the links there. Families with children who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2025 are encouraged to register and participate in the screening process, which helps us assess each child's individual needs and ensure they are placed in the most supportive learning environment. If you have questions, please contact Tami Moore at tmoore@sdlwi.org for assistance.

Summer School 2025

Look for the Ladysmith School District Summer School offerings to be shared shortly after we return from Spring Break. These offerings are an excellent opportunity to have your child participate in a variety of fun

and educational activities. Questions about summer school programming can be directed to Mr. Gago, elementary school principal, tgago@sdlwi.org.

Testing Season

The months of March and April bring us into spring testing at Ladysmith. Each year the spring brings several required tests for our students including the Forward Exam (English language arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8, science in grades 4 and 8, and in social studies in grades 4, 8, and 10), the PreACT Secure (grade 9 & 10) and the ACT (grade 11). These assessments are very important measures for us as we work to meet the individual needs of each student, and also help us make sure we are providing the best educational support we can. Please encourage your student(s) to put forth their best effort this spring, and to follow healthy habits (getting a full night's sleep, having a good breakfast, etc.) as we get into testing sessions in the next few weeks.

2025-2026 Calendar Approved

We are pleased to announce that the 2025-2026 school calendar has been approved! After careful consideration, the calendar is now set and ready for the upcoming school year. It includes key dates such as the start and end of the school year, holidays, breaks, and professional development days. We hope this early approval helps families plan ahead, and we look forward to another great year of learning and growth for all our students. A copy of this calendar can be found HERE.

New District Newsletter!

We're excited to launch our new district newsletter, designed to keep our community informed and connected. In the newsletter, you'll find updates from our buildings, important district news, and highlights of the amazing work happening in our classrooms. Our goal is to keep you informed and involved in your child's education, and we hope this newsletter serves as a helpful resource for staying up to date with everything happening across the district. Thank you for being a vital part of our school community! You should have received a copy of the newsletter in your mail, but if you didn't, you can also view it on our website by clicking on our *District Communication* icon.

March is a time of growth and renewal, and we are excited for all the opportunities still ahead this year. Wishing you a wonderful month ahead! It's always a great day to be a Ladysmith Lumberjack! #GoLadysmith!

Partners in the Future.

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Jason LeMay

District Administrator