

Recommended Statement

Board of Education adopts all four motions on the agenda as written with the following statement and directions to the Superintendent:

Because of an extremely short time-frame between the vote last night and our decision today, we cannot be confident that staff and parents fully understand the implications of the legislation at this time. In fact, as Board members or administrators, we cannot be confident of the implications.

It appears that teachers will receive a substantial pay increase, for all LPS teachers at all levels – on top of the current salary scale – and funding seems to be included for support staff, but many educators have concerns about details that no one has yet been able to clarify. In addition to this, the Governor has yet to sign the legislation.

We have heard from staff, and they have indicated a desire to walk-out, but we have also heard from staff and principals that they do not have enough information yet. We need to also ensure parents are heard from and understand the issues, and parents will have an opportunity to voice their opinions at site meetings across the district at 6:00 PM in every LPS School.

We therefore will act on these agenda items with the following guidelines to the superintendent:

1. Continue advocacy groups on Monday and every day next week as long as enough staff are available to fill a bus or busses. We are already closed on April 2, so PEAL will arrange this.
2. Due to the circumstances, we do not recommend a declaration of a closure until everyone understands the legislation; therefore this should be handled on a day-by-day basis. That will give staff an opportunity to be fully informed and to hear from parents tonight at 6:00 PM. A poll will be conducted from Noon to 5:00 PM on Monday, April 2. The results and the superintendent's decision will be shared by 6:00 PM. We are out of school that day, so people will need to check email from home.
3. Allow extra-curricular activities and professional development activities at all sites, district-wide. Principals will be responsible for ensuring the appropriate staff are in place, policy is followed, and that students' safety is ensured.
4. Allow 12-month staff to report before their pay would be impacted by any work stoppage. The superintendent will communicate with those staff members.
5. Ensure feeding sites are opened.

From the beginning, the principals asked that we proceed based on two criteria: that everyone is involved and that everyone is fully informed. This ensures that both happen *before* a decision is made. Post information on LPS Website as available.

Reschedule April 3 Board meeting.