



June 11, 2021

Dear SBCSC families,

Thanks to all of you who made our graduation ceremonies a success, and congratulations to our students, parents, and teachers for their hard work this year. Thanks to our maintenance staff for doing an outstanding job setting up for the event, supporting all the staff and volunteers throughout the weekend, and then breaking it all down. We couldn't have done it without you. Thanks to Miller's Vets Color Guard for the presentation of colors, and to Community Services with All Deaf for providing interpretation for the hearing impaired. Thanks to our South Bend Police Department and our SROs for their presence and security, and to the nurses and EMTs standing by. Thanks to our many volunteers and donors, especially Teachers Credit Union and the South Bend Education Foundation. There are too many to name here, but thanks to them, the weekend was truly memorable, and I am honored to have been part of it.

On Monday, following the transportation survey many of you took the time to complete, the School Board of Trustees voted in new start and end times for our students for the coming school year, which begins on Wednesday, August 11. Please note that these changes are not applicable to the South Bend Empowerment Zone Schools.

- Elementary students will report at 7:30 a.m. The elementary school day will end at 2:30 p.m.
- High school students will start at 8:30 a.m. The high school day will end at 3:30 p.m.
- Middle school students will begin at 9:30 a.m. The middle school day will end at 4:30 p.m.
- Clay International, LaSalle Academy, and Kennedy Academies will also be on the middle school schedule, starting at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m.

This newly adopted system will help our transportation department ensure that students can arrive on time to learn every day. We are committed to improving academics so that every student reads on grade level and we get to a 90% graduation rate. On-time arrival is paramount in making academic progress for all of our students.

This system will aid in our students requiring transportation being picked up and dropped off on time, create shorter commutes, and will expand opportunities for students requiring after-school transportation.

Your students will receive their bus assignments in the mail by July 30. Our call centers will be fully staffed and available on July 20. You can reach them by calling 574-393-7000.

Finally, as we begin the summer, please keep in mind that free meals are available to anyone under the age of 18 throughout the city. You can find a [list](#) of these distribution sites with days, times and locations on our social media pages and website.

Remember to read a book, listen to a new album, and catch a classic film.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Todd Cummings".

C. Todd Cummings, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools