

### Will childcare be provided on the 10 late start days?

Schools will NOT provide supervision for children who arrive early. Therefore, to ensure the safety of all students, please make sure your child arrives at school at the later start time on the 10 PLC late start days and not before.

### The Elementary School Age Child Care Program

Parents may choose to enroll their children in the tuition-based School Age Child Care program at their elementary school on late start mornings.

Advance registration will be required. Contact your elementary school's office for more information.

### Will the district provide transportation on the 10 late-start days?

Yes. Buses will run exactly two hours later on the 10 late start days. More information is available on the district website.

### Questions?

Contact your school principal if you have questions about the district achievement goal and Professional Learning Communities. Visit [www.littletonpublicschools.net](http://www.littletonpublicschools.net) for more information.



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# Professional Learning Communities

PLCs are increasing student achievement in LPS!



## LPS: A Premier School District

Littleton Public Schools has a long-standing reputation as a premier school district – not only in the Denver metro area, but across the country. This tradition of excellence continues. The District Achievement Goal states:

*“90 percent of all students K-10 will be on or above grade level in reading, math, writing, and science. The achievement gap in student performance will be cut in half. Students not at grade level will exhibit catch-up growth. All students will achieve at high levels.”*

## What are Professional Learning Communities?

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) provide time for teachers to meet together in teams to analyze data, solve student learning challenges, and improve instruction. These PLC meetings occur during 10 late start mornings throughout the school year.

During these meetings, teachers discuss:

- *What is essential for students to learn?*
- *How will we know when each student has learned it?*
- *How will we respond when a student experiences difficulty in learning?*
- *How will we respond when a student already knows it?*

## What does it mean to be on or above grade level?

Littleton Public Schools believes that it takes a body of evidence – a number of different sources of data – to determine how a student is performing. Students are on or above grade level if they are meeting the expectations for their age peer group on the defined essential learnings. Essential learnings are higher-level understandings that students are expected to comprehend and apply. On or above grade level is measured in three different ways:

- Performance on state tests (Transitional Colorado Assessment Program – TCAP)
- Performance on other large-scale assessment tests (MAP, CBLA, and second grade writing assessments)
- Classroom performance

This process of determining student performance levels is unique to LPS. Instead of looking at the results of one test, LPS believes a three-pronged approach gives a better view of student achievement.

## When are the Late Start Days?

The following school days will begin two hours later and buses will run two hours later for all students grades K-12:

- Wednesday, August 29, 2012
- Wednesday, September 12, 2012
- Wednesday, October 3, 2012
- Wednesday, October 24, 2012
- Wednesday, November 14, 2012
- Wednesday, December 5, 2012
- Wednesday, January 30, 2013
- Wednesday, February 27, 2013
- Wednesday, April 10, 2013
- Wednesday, May 1, 2013

## Students are benefiting from Professional Learning Communities

LPS is the highest achieving school district in the Denver metro area.

LPS is ranked first in academic growth in Colorado.

LPS students continue to outscore the state average by as much as 21 percentage points proficient and advanced in all grades and all subjects tested on TCAP.

LPS grade 3 reading scores are the highest in district history, with 88 percent of all LPS third graders scoring proficient and advanced, compared with 74 percent at the state level. LPS is outscoring the state average by its largest margin since 2002.

Only 20 LPS third graders, or 2%, scored unsatisfactory in reading in 2012, down from 4% in 2011.

LPS continues to be the only Denver metro area school district to be Accredited with Distinction, the highest academic accreditation rating given by the Colorado Department of Education. Only the top 10% of school districts in Colorado are Accredited with Distinction. LPS has earned this distinction for the past two years.

Principals report that **classroom instruction is much better than it was five years ago** because teachers now have time to share best practices with one another, which strengthens everyone's efforts.