



Message from the Superintendent

Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District



March 12, 2010

Dear Key Communicator:

Based on several emails that the Board members and I have received, I want to provide you with the facts regarding the implementation of a four-tier transportation service model and the impact it would have on the beginning and ending times for our campuses.

Each year, we review start/end times of our campuses and make changes to meet transportation requirements. This year, WCL Enterprises conducted an efficiency audit in CFISD and one of the recommendations for saving approximately \$1 million was to implement a four-tier transportation program instead of the current three-tier system. In order to implement a four-tier program, some campuses would begin the school day at 9:10 a.m. and end at 4:10 p.m.

We have been discussing this issue with our principals and collecting input regarding all of the possible scenarios for populating the four tiers. For discussion purposes, a late arrival/late dismissal scenario was created for each campus level -- elementary, middle school and high school. I believe the reason rumors are rampant regarding high school starting at 9:10 a.m. is due to the research that has been prevalent for years indicating that high school students perform better academically if they start school later than 8:00 a.m.

We have not made a final decision regarding a proposed schedule for the implementation of the four-tier program. We do hope to have that proposal ready in early April. Once that is accomplished, another Key Communicator letter will be sent to all of our stakeholders for whom we have an email address.

If you are fortunate enough to have a spring break, I hope that this information will allow you to relax and enjoy a few days without worrying about this issue.

Sincerely,
David Anthony