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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Livingston Schools to Shut Down All Operations**

**in Response to Governor’s Stay-At-Home Order**

**LIVINGSTON, La.** – Livingston Parish Public Schools Superintendent Joe Murphy announced today he is shutting down all operations for the school district, effective immediately (March 22 ), in response to the governor’s call for a statewide stay-at-home order that will be effective until April 12.

Murphy said all school facilities will be closed effective immediately, and no employees are to report to work, unless notified by the superintendent.

 “Our number one priority is the safety and well-being of all our students, faculty and staff. We know this is an unprecedented response to a very serious threat, and we are cooperating fully with the governor’s “Stay- At-Home Order,” Murphy said.

 Murphy said the district will suspend free meal service to parish children. While we are truly disheartened by the suspension of services at this time, we also have a responsibility to keep the citizens of our parish and our employees safe during this crisis. If further guidance and clarification is given regarding meal service which allows for the continuation, we will resume our meal program.

Murphy said all delivery and pickup of school packets will also cease at this time, however all digital instruction will continue.

 “I remain confident, that as we work together and cooperate with our leadership, we will overcome the circumstances that confront us,” Murphy said. “I want to encourage our school community to remain patient and understanding, and to be in prayer for one other during this time.”

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