



A. P. Low Primary School

600 BARTLETT DRIVE, LABRADOR CITY
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
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Dear Parents/Guardians,

With the implementation of full-day Kindergarten and the end of lunchtime busing, a restructuring of the school day at A.P Low is necessary for the 2016-17 school year. As a further result, all three schools in the Labrador West area chose to reflect upon their operations with respect to start times/busing.

A proposal was vetted through the school councils of all schools, which took into account the educational research that exists around the impact of school start time on the achievement of older students. Research indicates it is preferable for older students to begin their day later in the morning due to their physiology. Most junior and senior high schools start later than the primary/elementary schools. In fact, in Labrador, this has been the case for over a decade in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

Our busing system in Labrador West has 15 buses that are shared between our schools and the French School District. Our buses perform double runs – all buses deliver/drop off students to Menihek High School, then separate and complete the runs for A.P. Low and JR Smallwood.

Our system will change for 2016-17. The following changes will be in place:

School	Bus Runs Start	Doors Open	Classes Start	Dismissal*	Bus Runs End
AP Low	7:25-7:40am	8:05am	8:15am	2:10pm	2:35-2:50pm
JR Smallwood	7:25-7:35am	8:05am	8:20am	2:20pm	3:05-3:10pm
Menihek	8:20-8:30am	8:50am	9:00am	3:20pm	3:45-3:55pm

*Buses will depart each school when loaded and ready to roll. In general this is approximately 10 minutes after dismissal.

We have planned these changes using computer software and imagery that can predict bussing travel times that are required given our current bus stop locations. However, in real-life the technology does not always account for many factors, let alone the winters in Labrador West. We anticipate that the times above may have to be tweaked to provide a better service to the households of Labrador West.

It is understood that this will be a change in your family's routine. We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through the process as we believe this change is made in the best interests of our students.

Sincerely,

Administrators, Labrador West