

May 18, 2025

Important Update Regarding Saint Louis Public Schools Response to Severe Storms

Dear Saint Louis Public Schools Community,

Following Friday's devastating severe weather and tornadoes that inflicted significant damage and tragic loss upon our City of St. Louis, including our schools and many of our staff, Saint Louis Public Schools remains deeply concerned for all those affected. Our hearts continue to be with every individual, family, and community member impacted by this disaster.

Our teams are still working diligently to address the full impact of the storm on our school facilities. Based on our current assessment, we have identified important information that we've used to create a response that you will receive soon. The most important issue at the moment is that transportation is uncertain at this point, as we have been unable confirm with First Student or our other vendors whether transportation services will be available tomorrow.

We are focusing what we can collectively do to support our SLPS community, including staff, students, and parents/guardians. It is with this spirit of action and care that we want to ensure you are aware of the resources available to help and aid during this challenging and painful time. Our SLPS community experienced a significant loss of housing, damage to their homes and schools, disruption in education, and the uprooting of their communities due to the severe weather.

We are taking further steps to respond the needs of our SLPS families. At SLPS' Central Office, 801 N. 11th Street, on Monday, May 19, 2025, SLPS will conduct an After the Storm Community Outreach Fair for our students, staff, and families from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Our Student Support Services Department will offer a host of resources, including consultations from various district departments and community referrals, as well as hygiene supplies, socks, underwear, and sack lunches. In addition, <u>The Little Bit Foundation</u> will be joining SLPS during the fair at the Central Office, to provide hygiene items, water, and take orders for clothing and shoes.

We are here to support you. Additional information will be forthcoming soon. Our goal is that during the moments of discomfort and difficulty the community faces in the weeks and months ahead, we all do what we can to help those who sustained loss to remain hopeful and feel supported.

We are stronger together, and we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hillicen Brishade

Dr. Millicent Borishade Superintendent Saint Louis Public Schools