

Winter weather hits area for second time in a month, closes school

Written by By Betsy Blevins, Managing Editor

Thursday, 03 February 2011 10:29 - Last Updated Thursday, 03 February 2011 11:10

Feb. 3, 2011 - For the second time in a month, Leonard schools closed due to inclement weather that hit the northeast Texas region. The weather was part of a line of winter weather that stretched from Texas to the northeast. The National Weather Service showed an over 2100-mile line that would potentially drop at least one inch of snow, but as much as one- to two-feet, in the states affected by the storm.



In Leonard, sleet fell early Tuesday morning - as the first day of February dawned and succeeded in maintaining its reputation for being the coldest month in North Texas. Calls went out from Leonard ISD around 6 a.m. that school was closed for the day as the roads were slippery and impassable for the buses. The slick roads were desolate, as many stayed home from work in the warmth of their homes. A second call went out Tuesday afternoon that school would remain closed on Wednesday.

While some students celebrated the day off, this means that - in addition to attending on May 6 due to the first closure - they will now also have to attend on Good Friday - a day that is normally a holiday (bad weather make-up day) before Easter. Leonard Superintendent Larry LaFavers confirmed Tuesday morning that the recent closure would absolutely mean school would be in session that Friday.

Basketball games that were originally scheduled for Tuesday night against Melissa were rescheduled to Monday evening. The weather also canceled activities in Dallas and at Cowboy Stadium planned in conjunction with Super Bowl XLV.

As of press time, the forecast for the rest of the week indicates known-for-cold-weather February plans on sticking around for a few days. The iPhone weather application shows the area will not emerge from the freezing temperatures until Friday or Saturday, with overnight lows in the single digits and another chance for wintry precipitation Friday.

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Many residents moaned and groaned on Sunday after seeing the forecast and realizing a trip to the store was in their not-so-distant future to stock up on necessities.