

Emergency Closing Information for Inclement Weather or Other Reasons

Are schools closed? Check your radio!

Weather conditions can often change rapidly and seriously because of our coastal location, causing the possibility of school closures, delayed openings, or early dismissals.

The following radio and television stations will carry this announcement:

WBZ	1030	AM
WCIB	101.9	FM
WCOD	106.1	FM
WKPE	104.7	FM
WMVY	92.7	FM
WNBH/WCTK	98.1	FM
WOCN	103.9	FM
WQRC	99.9	FM
WXTK	94.9	FM
WCAL	90.1	FM
WCVB	Channel 5	
WHDH	Channel 7	

The Administration Building number, 548-0151, will have a recorded announcement providing information by 6:00 a.m.

Please do not call Fire and Police Headquarters for information on school closings.

General Information About Inclement Weather

- Parents should teach their children safe walking and waiting procedures.
- Young children are likely to be affected by delays, longer travel time or personal worries. Parents are encouraged to make individual decisions about school attendance during inclement weather. **Parent judgment is always the bottom line in questionable situations.**
- Schools will be willing to consider excused absences when parents decide to keep children home for safety reasons.
- **When delayed opening is announced, morning preschool and kindergarten classes will be canceled.**

How the Decision is Made

The Superintendent of Schools or his designee makes these decisions. Most often they are made in the 4:30 to 5:30 a.m. time period based on the latest weather information, on conversations with the Department of Public Works and safety officials regarding the condition of roads.

The school system recognizes that there are inconveniences and dangers in keeping schools open during inclement weather but also that there are concerns when closing because of disruption of family routines. We attempt to make the decision that is safest for families with a priority also on maintaining the flow of education.

What Are The Options?

School and town officials monitor weather conditions and road conditions. If conditions are severe enough to threaten the safety of students traveling to and from school, a decision is made to close school or delay opening.

Schools Closed:

All schools will be closed for the day. Students and staff are to remain home. Emergency personnel will report to work. **All afternoon and evening activities are also canceled.**

Two Hour Delayed Opening:

All school and bus times will be two hours later than regular starting time. **Schools will end at the normal times.** All other school activities will take place at their originally scheduled times.

Morning preschools are canceled.

All custodial and cafeteria employees are expected to report at normal hours.

Students are not to be on school grounds until 10 minutes before school begins; with the two-hour delay they should not arrive until 10 minutes before the delayed opening.

Early Dismissal:

There are no set times for early closure; this will depend on weather conditions. Generally schools are closed either one or two hours early and buses should arrive at their destinations at approximately one or two hours earlier than usual. There may be additional delays in elementary bus routes up to 20 to 30 minutes because buses must complete high school and middle school runs, often with difficult road conditions.

Elementary schools attempt to call the homes or the emergency numbers of preschool, kindergarten and first grade students. Radio stations announce the early closure. **Parents must have a plan for emergency coverage of students in case dismissal closure becomes necessary and no one is home.**

Whenever possible afternoon preschool programs will be canceled when there is early dismissal, and all other afternoon and evening activities are also canceled.