



PENNSBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT

134 YARDLEY AVENUE • P.O. BOX 338 • FALLSINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA 19058-0338

December 6, 2021

Dear Pennsbury School Community,

The start of the holiday season reminds us that winter will soon be upon us, bringing possible school closures or delayed openings and early dismissals. I would like to walk you through the process of how we make those decisions.

How is a weather-related closing or delay decision made?

In the very early hours of the morning, we study weather forecasts, conditions in the community, and confer with area superintendents. The final decision rests on my shoulders with advice from our Director of Facilities, the local police, and other key administrators. There are numerous factors to consider with the safety of students and staff at the top of the list.

Will all weather-related closures be virtual learning days?

We built two weather days into our calendar. The first day was used on September 2. The second day will be used for an old-fashioned snow day (no school, no homework). After these two days are used, we will transition to remote learning for weather-related closings. This will allow us to count these days as instructional days and avoid lengthening the school year.

How will we inform families about a weather decision?

- The decision to close schools or have a delayed opening must be made no later than 5:30 a.m. An early dismissal must be determined by 10 a.m.
- As in the past, we will notify families of a school closing, delay, or early dismissal by phone. This communication will occur between 5:30 and 6:00 a.m. for a closing and by 10:00 a.m. for an early dismissal. Families will also receive an email notification and text message (if opted in).
- Families will receive notification at the contact information listed in the Home Access Center.
- Closure or delay information will be placed on the district website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and local news stations.
- Whenever possible, we will make a decision the night before a weather emergency. In those cases, communication will be sent before 10:00 p.m.

As we begin the season of ice, snow, and cold and the challenges that winter weather brings, I want to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Smith, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
tsmith@pennsburyisd.org