



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

701 West Gregory Street - Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056

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January 19, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we work our way through the winter months, Mount Prospect School District 57 would like to update you on some of the factors that contribute to closing school in the event of an inclement weather-related closing and when you can expect to be notified. **In our current context, weather-related school closings would result in a remote learning day for hybrid students.** Full-time remote learning students would have a regular remote school day.

Over the past several years, we have been engaged in collaborative discussions with District 214 and all of its sender school districts. Together, we are committed to a process that ensures decisions are made wisely and in a timely fashion regarding the safety and well-being of our entire school community.

District 57 will follow these general guidelines when closing schools for winter-related closings:

- School buildings will be closed if there is a forecasted sustained wind chill of -30 degrees Fahrenheit or colder, or when the actual temperature is a sustained -15 degrees Fahrenheit or colder between the travel times of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and/or 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The District will use forecasts provided by the National Weather Service.
- For snow, ice, or other weather-related closings, the District will monitor the current conditions, the forecasted conditions between the travel times listed above, the ability of our staff to plow parking lots and sidewalks, as well as the ability of local municipalities to plow and make streets passable. The District will also contact its transportation carriers to assess their ability to safely run buses. In these situations, the District will be in touch with local and state officials, along with meteorologists, in order to make the most appropriate decision with the facts known at that respective time.
- If school buildings will be closed, the District **will make the notification by 5:30 a.m. the day of the closing**, knowing that you may need to arrange for childcare or other schedule changes. If the District can make the determination the night before to close school – meaning the forecast undoubtedly warrants closure – the District will attempt to notify you between 6:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
- Typically, the District does not send out a telephone SchoolMessenger notice after 9:30 p.m., as the system can sometimes take up to an hour or so to complete all calls. The District will update its website, social media accounts, and the Emergency Closing Center Website (www.emergencyclosingcenter.com) as soon as a decision has been made. However, in the event the decision to close our school buildings is made after 9:30 p.m., the District will wait and send out the telephone SchoolMessenger notice by 5:30 a.m. the following morning.

- In the event of severe weather, all afternoon and evening activities and athletics will be canceled. Kids' Corner will remain open until 4:30 p.m. on any days that school is in session. If District 57 schools are closed for an entire day due to inclement weather, Kids' Corner will not be open at all on those days.
- School Code and District policy allows parents to call their student out as excused if the District keeps schools open, but as a family, you have concerns about your child safely traveling to or from school.

As always, the safety and security of our students and staff remain a top priority of our District, as they are for you as well.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this correspondence. Fingers crossed for a mild winter...

Sincerely,

Elaine Aumiller, Ed.D.
Superintendent