

HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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January 24, 2011

Snow Closings and Delays Process

Dear Community Members:

The winter months always present challenges due to weather conditions. For your information, the process used to determine closings or delays is as follows:

- The Transportation Director gets on the roads at approximately 3:30 am and tours the locations that may be more seriously affected by the weather conditions to evaluate the status. This process takes approximately one hour.
- The Transportation Director consults with the Town Highway Supervisor to gather information on the status of the roads and the timeline for sanding, plowing, etc.
- The Transportation Director also consults with other area directors to confer on the status of area roads that border our district.
- The Transportation Director calls the Superintendent of Schools at approximately 4:30 am to give a summary of findings and advice on recommendations for action. **The information we receive from the experts at Accu Weather is a critical consideration at this stage of the decision making process.**
- The Superintendent frequently receives phone calls from other area superintendents to share status reports and recommendations.
- A determination is made at approximately 4:45, by the Superintendent, to either wait an additional half hour before a decision is made, call a two-hour delay, or to close schools entirely. Our first bus run leaves the garage at approximately 5:20, so the decision needs to be made prior to the first run.
- If a two-hour delay is called, the Transportation Director and Superintendent confer several times and repeat the above process to determine if we can safely get the students to school and/or get them home in the event that we bring them in.

In the event that we go over the allotted five days set aside for snow closings, the District Calendar and Guide outlines the make-up day formula:

If only one day: April 18, 2011

If two days: April 20, 2011 and April 18, 2011

If three days: April 21, 2011, April 20, 2011, and April 18, 2011

Safety is our utmost priority in making these decisions. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 229 – 4000.

Sincerely,

Greer F. Fischer
Superintendent of Schools

Seeking 21st Century Equity & Excellence