

SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURE



Deciding if and when to close school due to bad weather is often a difficult decision and we understand that this decision has a major impact on families. While we recognize that students are best served academically by being in school, the safety of our students is always our top priority. With that in mind, there are many factors that are taken into consideration when making this decision.

Factors Taken Into Consideration

The following information is considered in all decisions relative to the closing of school:

- District staff members assess the conditions of the driveways, parking lots and sidewalks taking into account snow and ice.
- The Head Bus Driver consults with area highway superintendents to gather information about road conditions in our district.
- Short and long-term weather forecasts are considered.
- When appropriate, the potential for extremely low wind chill temperatures is considered.

Decision Process

Typically, the decision process regarding school closings occurs between 4:30 and 5:30 am with a final decision made by 6 am.

Notification to Parents

Due to inclement weather, whenever possible, school will be delayed. If the decision to delay or close is made, this will be communicated to parents through our automated parent notification system and through the following radio and television stations: WBEN, WGR, WKSX, WDOE, WJTN and channels 2, 4 and 7. When PVCS is closed for school, this includes the fitness center, pool and all evening activities.

Early Dismissal

It is rarely necessary to close school early in the day, but there is always the possibility of power or heat failure, dangerous road conditions or ice storms. Please instruct your child (children) about what to do or where to go in case school closes early and no one is home. In case of early closings, parents will be notified via the automated parent notification system. Additionally, parents of elementary students are contacted by school personnel.

Personal Responsibility

As always, it is up to parents or guardians to make the final decision regarding school attendance. If you feel the weather is too severe, you have the right to keep your children home. Likewise, if you are concerned about poor weather that has developed during the day, you may make arrangements to pick up your child. In any case, please communicate your decision with the school.