2026-27

School Closings / Delayed Start

Decision Process & Communications Procedure

Inclement weather is always a concern in Northeast Ohio. With this in mind, we want to remind you of our procedures for a school closing or delayed start in the event of dangerous conditions.

Please note that parents may always choose to keep their children home if they sincerely feel there is a weather-related safety risk for their child. These absences will be recorded as excused, with make-up work provided to the student if the weather was questionable in the school district that day (as determined by the Superintendent).

The decision to call off school due to inclement weather begins at approximately 3:30 AM and includes analysis of the following information:

- Weather and radar reports including temperature forecasts
- Personal observation of road conditions (if applicable)
- Input from local law enforcement and road crews Input from district maintenance and snow removal personnel (If applicable)
- When necessary, school personnel drive the roads to determine the conditions Input and discussions with superintendents from neighboring districts

When all of this information is gathered, the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent of Business Affairs, and Transportation Supervisor jointly make the decision to **close the schools, keep them open for students**, **or use a delayed start option** rather than canceling school *(should weather conditions allow for this option)*.

Our deadline to make the decision is no later than 5:45 AM as school buses are beginning to depart for their morning runs at that time. However, it may become necessary, in isolated

cases, to make the decision after that time. Weather conditions can change abruptly, for better or for worse after the decision is made regarding school on a given day, but our intent is to determine whether it is safe for students and staff to attend school as early as possible.

All parents and staff will receive an automated phone call and email indicating that school has either been canceled or will open using a delayed start of two hours. If school is closed or delayed and you did not receive a call, it is necessary for you to confirm your telephone contact information with your child's school as we use the most recent telephone numbers on file for sending automated messages.

Under a Delayed Start:

- All buses will arrive at their morning stop locations exactly two hours later than normal schedule within the constraints of weather and road conditions. Students (including non-public school students that receive transportation through Chardon Schools) should plan to arrive at their assigned stops approximately 10 minutes prior to that time.
- All schools will open for operations exactly two hours later than their normal schedule. Students that walk to school, drive, or receive rides to school should plan on arriving two hours later unless directed otherwise for special programs.
- All schools will offer a lunch program with options that meet school nutrition standards.
- All schools will dismiss at the usual time.
- There will be **no transportation to/from Auburn Career Center for AM classes**. AM ACC students should plan to arrive at CHS for their afternoon classes following the modified schedule for that day. The bus for PM Auburn Career Center Classes will depart CHS at 10:20 AM.
- There will be no morning preschool class. Full day class will report at 11:00 AM. Afternoon class will report at 1:00 PM.
- **Morning** Topper Care programs at all schools will be canceled. **Afternoon** Topper Care will operate as scheduled.
- All private, parochial and special education schools that receive transportation services from Chardon Schools will be picked up exactly two hours later.

The following is information concerning the delayed start schedule by school:

SCHOOL	DELAYED START TIME	DISMISSAL
CELC (Chardon Preschool)	Morning Preschool ***Canceled*** Afternoon Class reports at 1:00 PM Full day reports at 11:00 AM	***Canceled*** 3:15 PM 3:15 PM
Munson ES	11:10 AM	3:40 PM
Park ES	11:10 AM	3:40 PM
Chardon MS	9:35 AM	2:40 PM
Chardon HS	9:45 AM	2:40 PM

Again, safety is our highest priority, and we strive to make the best possible decision with the information available at the time. Unfortunately, weather conditions can change rapidly in our area and we even see significant differences across the 90 square miles of our school district.

We work to make the best decision possible - at the time.

Please do not hesitate to contact the district if you require additional information in this regard.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Hanlon, Jr.
Superintendent