

Winter Weather Announcement

Winter weather may require Williamstown Independent Schools to alter daily schedules or routines within the district. In order to receive the most accurate information regarding changes to daily operations, please check to ensure all phone numbers and emergency contacts for your family are up to date. We also recommend a plan for child-care arrangements should the need arise to close school early, delay, or cancel school. Making the necessary arrangements ahead of time will prevent you from being caught off guard and reduce stress.

District Decision Process:

Williamstown Independent Schools make decisions on closing or delaying school with student safety as the top priority. If hazardous conditions are expected, district personnel team with the City of Williamstown road crew to inspect road conditions. Other circumstances to consider include the outside temperature, [wind chill factor](#) and the amount of precipitation fallen or falling. Once enough information is gathered and shared the district team will consider four options.

- Cancel School
- One Hour Delay
- Two Hour Delay
- Early Dismissal: If conditions are expected to change in the afternoon
- Open on Regular Schedule

The team attempts to make a decision by 5:00 a.m. in order for all stakeholders to plan accordingly.

Getting the Word Out:

Once a decision is made, the notification process begins through our phone notification system, news media outlets, district social media outlets and the district's webpage. Since the phone system has thousands of households to call, it can take 15 minutes to a half an hour for all the messages to go out.

School delays and closings can also be viewed or heard on channels 5, 9, 12, 19, and 64 or on 106.5 FM, 700 WLW and 1530AM.

Simultaneously the information is being posted to the following district sites:

- Website: www.williamstown.kyschools.us
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/WilliamstownIndependentSchools
- Twitter: [@WtownInd](https://twitter.com/WtownInd)

If School is Canceled:

Schools will not be open for regular business.

All afternoon and evening activities should be presumed to be cancelled as well. However, if conditions improve for highways, roads, parking lots, and sidewalks so that after-school activities can safely be held, you will be notified.

If School is Delayed:

In the event of a one or two hour delay all schools will begin one or two hours later than normal. Bus routes will operate approximately one or two hours later than regular scheduled pick-up time. There is a possibility buses may run an altered route depending on weather and road conditions at the time. If your child's route is affected, you will be notified.

School dismissal times remain the same, and afternoon and evening activities continue as usual unless weather conditions deteriorate throughout the day. If so, an announcement will be made in the same "Getting the Word Out" manner to keep you informed.

If Schools Dismiss Early:

If weather conditions are forecasted to deteriorate while students are in school, there is a possibility a decision will need to be made in regards to closing school early. This decision is made as early as possible to allow families time to make arrangements.

Children in the morning Head Start/Preschool sessions who ride the bus will be taken home at the regular time, and afternoon Head Start/Preschool sessions will be canceled.

Make-Up Days:

Although students may get excited for an unanticipated day off from school, we will follow the district calendar in terms of making up for lost instructional days. Any additional changes to the district calendar must be approved by the Board of Education. In the event this occurs, we will communicate the changes.

The decision to close or delay school is rarely easy and typically a "no-win" situation regardless of the decision. Please know the Williamstown Independent Schools will always

make decisions to ensure the safety of our students and staff to the very best of our ability.