



Pocono Mountain School District

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Superintendent of Schools

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November 17, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

With some students attending school as part of our In-Person Hybrid program and other students attending school virtually, the issue of school day delays, early dismissals, snow closure days and what happens on those days may seem a bit more confusing this school year for many of our parents.

Let me clarify what parents can expect. School delays and snow closure announcements will be made following the same process we normally use. Announcements will be posted to the PMSD website and our School websites as an Alert Message usually before 5 a.m. We also post the notice to local television channels (BRC-TV 13, WBRE and WNEP) and provide the notices to our local radio stations to broadcast during their announcements. In addition, parents who have signed up to receive Alert text and email messages will receive those school delay and school closure messages. Parents may sign up to receive the Alert text and email messages on the PMSD website (www.pmsd.org) by scrolling down to the Helpful Links section and selecting the PMSD Alert Text & Email Messages link.

When we announce a school delay on the PMSD website notice, we will also list the time our schools will open, so parents are not confused, since we already have a delayed start to our school days. Also, MCTI students should have already been notified regarding any changes to their bus schedules if we have to announce a school delay.

Early dismissals will be announced to parents through ParentLink phone messages, Alert notices posted to the PMSD and school websites, and PMSD Alert text and email messages. For parents who may be confused at when to meet their children at the bus stop, just subtract the number of hours of the early dismissal from the time you normally meet your child at the bus stop after school.

For snow closure days, we have four snow make up days built into the PMSD school calendar in June (June 7, 8, 9 and 10), which we can use at the end of the school year and three days additional snow make up days we can use (February 15, April 1, and April 5) during the school year, if needed. We also have some flexibility this year where I may be able to designate snow closure days as instructional days where students would receive virtual synchronous instruction with their teachers during the day. We will make special announcements for any snow closure days that are deemed virtual instructional days for our students.

I hope this clarifies what parents and students can expect if we have to delay the start of a school day, dismiss students early from school or cancel a school day this winter.

Please stay safe, stay healthy, and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth Robison

Superintendent of Schools