



## Snow Day Expectations

December 14, 2020

Good Morning,

With snow in the forecast this week, I want to set expectations for snow days.

The State Department of Education has approved the option for districts to treat "snow days" during the 2020-2021 school year as either a Remote Learning Day (RLD) or a day to be made up later in the school year, as we have done in the past. However, the guidelines go on to say "Consideration should be given to the number of students and faculty who may be under power or internet outage circumstances before declaring a remote learning day when closed for inclement weather, as it may be detrimental to the participant's ability to successfully participate in these activities." The state has not provided guidance on what would happen if a remote learning day was called and then there were power outages after the instructional day had begun. Would the day still count? This has contractual implications and further clarification is needed.

Given the unpredictability of power/internet outages in our area, it is unlikely that we would have advance notice of such events. Therefore, **in the event of unsafe weather conditions on Thursday, December 17, school will be closed and we will not have remote instruction.**

However, given some of the forecast guidance, **Friday, December 18 could be a remote learning day** if power issues are minimal, but clean-up takes longer than expected. For that reason, **staff and students should leave school Tuesday (PK, 6-12) and Wednesday (K-5) with instructional materials for Friday.** It is unlikely but this is 2020. If there is a delay on Friday, we would hold in-school classes for 6-12 and modify the day for PK-5. More information on Friday plans will come later in the week.

Decisions are made by 5:30AM for either a delayed (2 hour) opening or closure. Notification to parents and the media follow as soon as possible after that time. Parents should ensure they are set up properly in Infinite Campus to receive school closing, delay, and early dismissal notifications. We will also be publishing a revised Alternate Schedule to address delayed opening and early dismissal changes based on the new January schedule.

So if there is a reason to close schools this week I hope you and your family can enjoy it. We will have more information to help us plan for future events.

Stay safe and warm,

Mike

Mike Cummings  
Superintendent of Schools  
Fairfield Public Schools