

## WOODBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road - South Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D. - Superintendent

December 15, 2020

Good Afternoon BRS Families,

I want to start by thanking you very much for your warm welcome into the very special community that is Beecher Road School. Your continued outreach and support is very welcome! In that vein, I remind you that my final parent listening forum for this month is tomorrow, Wednesday, December 16, at 9:00 AM; <u>please use this link if you are able to join the meeting</u>.

I am primarily writing you today to address the important question of "What will happen if BRS has a snow day later this week?" Yes, the weather channels are indeed telling us that Mother Nature is looking in our direction.

As you may know, this year the Connecticut State Department of Education is allowing Superintendents to have discretion to convert snow days to remote learning days, rather than make up the days at the end of the year. Although there are good reasons why this could be beneficial, I want to let you know that, if there is a snow day between now and the holiday break, BRS will <u>not</u> convert that day to a remote learning day, but rather will have the traditional snow day to which we have been accustomed in the past.

After consultation with Board of Education members, WEA leadership and teachers, and the other BOWA Superintendents, it is my belief that a traditional snow day at this point will allow our students the joy, pleasure, and privilege of experiencing winter's magic in what has been a particularly stressful year. Potentially, a different decision may be made after the New Year, and in January I will be convening a workgroup of key individuals to discuss the guidelines and parameters that would be needed in that case; I will keep you apprised on this work as it evolves.

Please note that, because all of our students follow the same school-year calendar, a traditional snow day would apply to <u>all</u> students, including those who currently are fully remote for their learning.

Finally, please review the October 2020 communication from the BOWA Superintendents addressing related elements of weather-related communications: <u>https://www.woodbridge.k12.ct.us/district-information/district-news</u>.

Please e-mail me (jbudd@woodbridgeps.org) if you have any questions related to this issue. Until then, I join with you in awaiting with excitement and awe the likely first white precipitation of the season later this week.

Sincerely,

Jonathan S. Budd

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D. Superintendent