



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Living in Northeastern Ohio presents our school district with many challenges in dealing with adverse weather. Often, severe conditions at 6:00 a.m. are much improved one or two hours later, making it safe to continue school activities.

With this being said - our school district may use the option of a two-hour delay to start the school day for inclement weather or other emergencies. By using the "two-hour delay," we may be able to have school and avoid a total loss of instruction for the day.

The need to close or delay the opening of our schools for the safety of students and staff is a decision we take very seriously. We understand students are better served academically and socially by being in school. However, student and staff welfare is our top priority.

The following procedures will be implemented for a two-hour delay start situation:

Two-Hour Delay Procedures (if Needed)

The superintendent, in conjunction with other school officials, will strive to decide by 6:00 a.m. to either close or delay the opening of the school and will announce it to the television media and send out a message via the Send It System. Announcements will also be posted on the district's social media accounts.

When a two-hour delay announcement is made, watch television for updated information. If conditions deteriorate, a decision will be made to close school for the day by 7:45 A.M. You will receive a message from our Send It System and social media accounts.

Information, Questions, and Answers for Parents & Employees If a Two-Hour Delay Schedule is Implemented

A "two-hour delay" may be an alternative to canceling school if it can be done safely. This decision to delay the start of school will be based on weather forecasts and if local road departments indicate that roads can be adequately cleared and safe weather conditions are

likely throughout the day. We ask you to make arrangements for your children for the possibility of two-hour delays and full-day school closings.

In Crestwood, under a two-hour delay, each building's schedule will begin two hours later than usual. The day will start with the corresponding class period of the day unless communicated otherwise by individual building principals. The school day will end at the regular time.

Transportation changes will be made as follows:

- All morning pick-up times for Crestwood public and non-public school students will be two hours later. This will also apply if your student participates in the Education Alternatives, ALS, LEAP, or Maplewood programs(s).
- Afternoon transportation home will be at the regular time.
- Transportation will not be provided for the morning preschool program since it will be canceled. It will be provided for the afternoon preschool program at regular times.

Questions and Answers

Can I drop my child off at the regular time if we are on a two-hour delay?

No. Building staff will only be available to supervise students after the designated starting time.

Can we arrange for alternate pick-up locations when there are two-hour delays?

No. We cannot change pick-up locations in such a short period without compromising safety or causing buses to be late.

Will my child have breakfast or lunch on this schedule?

Lunch will be served, but breakfast will not be served.

How will we be notified of two-hour delays or school closings?

As with school closings, the announcement of a two-hour delay will be broadcast on television stations and via our Send It System. Information will also be posted on our social media accounts.

What if keeping my child home all day when schools are open is safer?

District decisions regarding calamity days are made based on the district's safety conditions. We realize there may be localized conditions that may cause some parents to be concerned. Parents who keep their students home based on localized conditions should send a written excuse the next day, and students will be excused and allowed to make up any missed work for credit.

How does the district decide to open, close, or use a two-hour delay?

Area weather forecasts are monitored regularly throughout the late evening and early morning hours. District employees drive as many main and back roads as possible between 4:00 AM and 5:45 AM to monitor the depth of snow, drifting, wind, and slipperiness of roads. We also consult with the State Highway Patrol and other area safety forces as needed.

We aim to inform parents of our decisions to close or delay between 5:45 AM and 6:15 AM.

Impact of Two-Hour Delays on Employee Schedules

Administrators and custodians will report at the regular time to assist as needed.

All other classified employees scheduled for mornings will report two hours later than usual.

This applies to secretaries unless other arrangements are made with their principals or direct supervisors out of necessity. Classified employees who are typically scheduled to work midday or afternoon shifts will report at their regular times. Teachers will report two hours later than their normal times.

Closing or delaying school is complex, and we do our best to make the correct call. Your continued support and cooperation are appreciated.

Sincerely,

David M. Toth

Dr. David M. Toth
Superintendent
Crestwood Local Schools