

School Delays & Closures

District Guidance and Info



In preparation for the winter months and the potential for a weather event to impact the school day, there are many factors taken into consideration when deciding whether to delay or close schools for the day. It is always our goal to keep schools open and on time during snowy weather, but safety comes first. Parents, guardians and students should always assume the school day will be conducted as normal unless they hear from the district via phone call, email, district webpage, social media accounts or the local media (i.e. KHQ, KREM, KXLY, FOX28 TV stations).

OUR PROCEDURES



The MSD Transportation Director and Assistant Director begin driving the bus routes and observing the walking routes at around 3 a.m. to assess conditions.



Delay and/or closure decisions take into account road conditions, walking routes to schools and the day's forecast. Families should take their own situation into account when deciding whether their child should attend school or not and be sure to make an attendance call if staying home is the best option.



Before making a final decision, Superintendent Hanson consults with the Transportation and Maintenance Departments to assess overall road, sidewalk, school building and parking lot conditions.



In the event of a two-hour delay, we have:

- NO Breakfast Program
- NO AM Preschool
- NO Before School District Programs (academic, music, athletics, etc.)
- NO AM Skills Center Busing
- YMCA Before School Programs will open at 7 a.m., unless communicated otherwise from YMCA



OUR COMMUNICATIONS

MSD's goal is to inform families and staff of a two-hour delay or school closure as early as possible prior to 6 a.m. In unique circumstances or a major impending weather event, families may be informed the night before.



Parents/guardians and staff will be notified of a delay or closure via:

- Phone call, text message and email via SchoolMessenger
- Emergency Alert posted on District and school website homepages
- Local television and radio
- District Facebook and Twitter accounts



IF a two-hour delay occurs on a Wednesday, buses will run two hours later than the regular-day (M, T, Th, F) schedule. This means that if a two-hour delay is called on a Wednesday, just add two hours to the typical M, T, Th, F bus pick-up and school start-time schedule.



Some bus routes will be running on limited service due to inclement weather (snow/icy roads). If a snow route is put in use for the a.m. bus run, then the p.m. bus run will remain on a snow route. The MSD Transportation Dept. will communicate directly with families of riders on snow routes. This info will also be posted at www.mead354.org/snowroute

NOTE: Contact information for parents/guardians is derived from Powerschool. Please ensure that email addresses and phone numbers are up-to-date on an annual basis by calling your child's school front office.

