



# RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## SNOW DAYS: How the decision is made



### HOW DO WE MAKE OUR DECISION?

Several factors go into making a “snow day” call, including:

Information on current road conditions from our transportation and maintenance crews; conditions are monitored throughout the night, and again at approximately 3:30 – 4 a.m. by RCSD operations personnel.

Amount of snow and ice accumulated

Duration and timing of the snow and/or ice event

Temperature and wind chill (for safety of walkers and students at bus stops) We generally use a -20 wind chill for a sustained amount of time as a “cold weather closure” guide.

School building conditions (electricity, heat, water)

School parking lot and sidewalk conditions

Current weather conditions, along with predicted weather, but closures cannot be determined solely on predictions.

Will buses be operational and running on schedule?

Consultation with weather consultants and other nearby school districts, particularly those in which we share services and programs with, including Special Education and the Downriver Career and Technical Consortium



### WHO MAKES THE DECISION?

The superintendent makes the final decision, based on the above factors, recommendations from our Operations Department, information from the National Weather Service, and consultation with neighboring districts



### PARENT DECISION

As a reminder, although the district does its best in this process, we know that often, no perfect decision exists. If you feel as though it is not safe for your child to attend school, please know that you always have the option of keeping your child at home.



### HOW ARE PARENTS NOTIFIED?

We spread the word in several ways, as soon as the determination is made by the superintendent:

- Automated phone call (the phone number listed for parent/guardian contacts in PowerSchool)
- Schoology post
- Social media: District Facebook page, X (Twitter)
- All local radio and TV news stations



### WHEN IS THE DECISION MADE?

Sometimes, closures are determined the evening prior, while most times they’re determined during the early morning hours. The calls go out as soon as possible, to give families proper planning time. We do not place phone calls earlier than 5 a.m. We do not stagger calls per grade level and we realize that a 5 a.m. call is appropriate for high school students and staff, but early for elementary, which has a later start time. Thanks for your understanding.



### WILL SNOW DAYS BE VIRTUAL LEARNING DAYS?

Due to the last-minute nature of these calls, it would be difficult for our staff to transition to virtual instruction from a remote location. Therefore, snow days will remain the same as in years past and will not be remote learning days. If there are a significant number of inclement weather days this year, that could be revisited at a later date.



### ARE THERE SNOW DAYS BUILT INTO THE CALENDAR?

The district does not build snow days into the calendar, but the State of Michigan allows up to six days for emergency closings

**Please make sure your contact information is current and correct in PowerSchool.**

One community, every day, charting the course the Pirate way.