

# Inclement weather: parent communication

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As you are aware, on occasion it is necessary to **cancel** school because of inclement North Idaho winter weather. Typically it is icy conditions, not snow that presents a problem. We also have the option of a **2-hour late start** when it appears the weather could improve enough to safely open school for students and staff members later in the morning. Starting school later will also provide city and county road crews with more time to clear roadways, parking lots and sidewalks. The decision to keep school open, close, or delay the start by 2 hours is announced by 5:30AM.

## Clarification regarding 2-hour late start:

- School will be in session and buses will run their regular routes as on a normal school day – just 2 hours later.
- *Morning* developmental preschool sessions are **canceled** on 2-hour late start days.
- GAP will be open at each elementary site on 2-hour late start days from 7:30AM – 6:00PM. (Only students already registered for the GAP program may attend.)
- School lunch will be served at the normal time on 2-hour late start days.

The Superintendent considers the safety of students and employees when making the decision whether to conduct school, close, or enact a 2-hour late start. In the event of a closure or 2-hour late start, the local media is contacted immediately. The district provides information to KXLY, KVNI, KCDA, KISS, KDRK radio and KREM-2, KXLY-4 AND KHQ-6 television stations. The district will also utilize the SchoolMessenger notification system for parents with texting capabilities on their cell phones who have opted in to the SchoolMessenger system.

## **School Messenger**

The Post Falls School District has joined the School Messenger emergency notification system. The system allows the district to communicate via text messages to parents regarding important matters such as safety alerts, school closure (weather or otherwise) or other issues affecting students.

To receive school notifications, you must opt-in to school messenger. Please follow the steps below to opt in:

- Send a text message to 67587 with the word "Yes" or "Y" in the body of the text.
- You will receive a confirmation text reply affirming your registration with School Messenger.