



Clayton County Public Schools

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ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Division of Communications, Public Relations, Marketing & Strategic Improvement

January 24, 2026

Clayton County Public Schools to Close Monday, January 26, 2026

Decision Based on Anticipated Issues Related to 'Significant Winter Ice Storm'

JONESBORO - The leadership of Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) announces that it **will close all schools and offices on Monday, January 26, 2026**. All district-related extra-curricular and athletic events are cancelled from Saturday to Monday (January 24 to 26).

Special Note: The Clayton County Board of Education Work Session previously scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2026, is included in the list of Monday cancellations. That session will be moved to Monday, February 2, 2026, and combined with the scheduled Regular Board Meeting. That meeting will be held at the district's Performing Arts Center and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The district will continue to monitor the aftermath of the storm and its impact on the return to a regular day of instruction. Should the weather conditions continue over a period of days, district leadership may consider pivoting to virtual working day(s) for staff and asynchronous learning day(s) for students. **Expect another update by Monday, January 26, 2026, regarding the status of Tuesday, January 27, 2026.**

Impact of the Winter Ice Storm

The decision to close the school district on Monday comes after days of careful consideration of reports by the National Weather Service (NWS) and CCPS Office of Emergency Preparedness related to a developing winter storm that will impact our area over the weekend (January 24-25).

The National Weather Service has established a **Winter Ice Storm Warning** for this region. Freezing rain is expected to start on Saturday afternoon with wind gusts up to 30 miles per hour. The most severe conditions are anticipated Saturday night through the morning of Sunday, January 25. Temperature and wind chill will not get above freezing late Sunday evening into Monday, January 26. The wind chill is expected to be around 10 degrees on Monday morning.

Forecasted impact on the region from the storm:

- Major impacts to travel and power infrastructure are possible in northeast Georgia.
- The weight of ice could bring down trees, branches, and power lines, particularly if breezy winds also occur.
- Very cold temperatures may linger into early next week, extending the threat for frozen pipes and cold-related illnesses in areas that lose power.

Keeping Stakeholders Informed:

CCPS urges all families and staff to stay weather-aware, prepare emergency supplies, and prioritize safety this weekend. Students and their families, as well as CCPS employees, are encouraged to take appropriate

precautions. Temperatures are expected to be cold enough to threaten unprotected or non-winterized plumbing. Vehicles should be checked for proper levels of anti-freeze.

As additional updates will be forthcoming, we encourage everyone to stay connected to all CCPS platforms for information regarding Clayton County Public Schools through the following outlets:

- ❖ All television and radio stations in the Metro Area
- ❖ CCPS Finalsite Parent Notification phone call and email
- ❖ CCPS Infinite Campus portal
- ❖ CCPS Information – e-blast to employees and stakeholders
- ❖ CCPS Website: www.clayton.k12.ga.us
- ❖ CCPS Social Media Platforms and CCPS Mobile APP

Safety & Preparedness Information for Families:

- ❖ **Travel:** Dangerous conditions are likely. Avoid unnecessary travel during the storm, especially on untreated roads.
- ❖ **Power & Property:** Ice accumulation could damage trees and power lines. Prepare for possible power outages.
- ❖ **Home Safety:** Keep a supply of food, water, medications, and warm clothing. Charge essential devices and protect pipes from freezing.
- ❖ **Health & Safety:** Dress in layers, stay indoors if possible, and check on neighbors, elderly relatives, or others who may need help.
- ❖ **Pets & Animals:** Bring pets indoors or provide adequate shelter, food, and water.

Safety & Preparedness Resources for Families:

- ❖ **National Weather Service Winter Weather Safety:** <https://www.weather.gov/safety/winter>
- ❖ **FEMA Winter Weather Guidance:** <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>
- ❖ **American Red Cross Winter Storm Safety:**
<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm.html>
- ❖ **Clayton County EMA:**
<https://www.claytoncountyga.gov/government/departments/emergency-management-agency>

-An official document from the Clayton County Public School System-

About Clayton County Public Schools: Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by Cognia. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 50,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the sixth-largest school system in Georgia.

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