



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF RUMSON

Forrestdale School • Forrest Avenue • Rumson, N.J. 07760 • (732) 842-4747 • Fax: (732) 842-4877

*Office of the Superintendent*

November 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to update you on procedures our schools will follow when it may be necessary to cancel, delay or abbreviate the school day due to inclement weather, or to dismiss students early in the event of an emergency. **All notifications will be sent via the Bulldog Broadcast System (BBS). In order to receive these notifications, it is imperative that you register and maintain your current information, i.e. phone numbers, e-mail address.**

Regarding the latter, the school will utilize the district broadcast system to communicate an early dismissal in the event of an emergency. Under these circumstances, a recorded announcement will be sent to the registered phone number(s) and e-mail addresses that you have provided. The announcement will specify the reason why school is closing and the time at which school is being dismissed. In the event of an early dismissal, normal bus transportation will be provided, but you have the option of picking-up your child at school.

Regarding the more customary closures due to inclement weather, schools will be closed on those occasions when road conditions are poor and the forecast suggests dangerous conditions throughout most of the day.

The opening of school will be delayed for one and one-half (1 1/2) hours when early morning road conditions are dangerous but the weather is predicted to clear. A delayed opening permits us to clear parking lots and walkways prior to student, parent and bus arrival. It also has the advantage of allowing walking students, buses and driving parents to traverse the roads after commuter and business traffic has subsided. In the case of a delayed opening, the morning Preschool Class and the Before School Child Care program will be cancelled.

Decisions on school cancellations and delayed openings will be made by 6:00 a.m. Announcements...

- will be made on the District Broadcast System
- will be placed on News 12 NJ (Channel 62)
- will be posted on the district website by 7:00 a.m. for a delayed opening or school closing; by 11:00 a.m. for a 1:00 p.m. Early Closing ([www.rumsonschool.org](http://www.rumsonschool.org))

We ask parents to understand that we must open school when conditions are such that a majority of students can get to school safely. However, you should use your own judgment in determining whether or not your street is safe for walking or driving at any given time considering the age of your child, the conditions on your street and the capability of your vehicle.

If the weather becomes inclement after the school day is underway, we may consider an early dismissal. This option is utilized only in extreme circumstances and only after receiving assurances from the Police Department that dismissing students in the middle of a storm would not create a greater public safety problem. Early School Closing decisions are made by 11:00 a.m. using the same notification procedures as outlined. In the case of an early dismissal, the afternoon Preschool Class and the afternoon After School Program will be cancelled.


Following the announcement of an early dismissal, parents of elementary students may pick up their children at school prior to the dismissal time. Children in grades K-5 are not permitted to walk or to take the bus home unless a parent, or their emergency designee, has been contacted. If contact has not been made with a parent/guardian or emergency designee by the time school is dismissed for students in Grades 6, 7, 8, they will be released and encouraged to go home in the same manner that they would normally travel.

We ask you to prepare for the possibility of a school cancellation by doing the following:

1. **Be sure to register on the Bulldog Broadcast System (BBS).**
2. Be certain that your child's school has your up-to-date phone number(s), e-mail address and an emergency number of a relative, friend, or neighbor on file. Please choose a person who is able to be reached during the day.
3. Be certain that your child fully understands what to do and where to go in the event that he or she arrives home and you are not there.
4. Review the attached cancellation procedures and retain them for reference through the year.

Thank you for your cooperation in making school cancellation as safe and orderly a process as possible for our children.

Sincerely,

  
Maryrose Caulfield/Sloan  
Superintendent of Schools

MC-S:kdt  
Attachment

Rumson School District  
INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATION PROCEDURES  
*"Please retain for reference"*

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU REGISTER ON  
THE BULLDOG BROADCAST SYSTEM**

***Delayed Opening***

The following will occur when a decision is made to delay opening:

- The delay is for 1 1/2 hours (90 minutes), no longer or shorter
- An announcement will be made on the District Broadcast System
- An announcement will be placed on News 12NJ between 6:00 and 6:30 a.m.
- An announcement will be posted on the district website by 7:00 a.m. for a delayed opening or school closing. Preschool and the Before School Care programs will be cancelled in the event of a delayed opening.

The start of school is postponed for 1 1/2 hours (90 minutes):

Grades K – 8 – 10:10 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.

Buses pick up 1 1/2 hours (90 minutes) later than usual. They will start their runs at approximately 9:50 a.m.

***Early Dismissal***

Deane-Porter and Forrestdale Schools will dismiss at 1:00 p.m.

- An announcement will be made on the district Broadcast System
- A announcement will be placed on News 12NJ by 11:00 a.m.
- An announcement will be posted on the district website by 11:00 a.m. for an early dismissal. Preschool and the After School Care programs will be cancelled in the event of an Early Dismissal.