

INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSING AND DELAY PROCEDURES

As all Michigan residents know, inclement weather can certainly alter plans and schedules by closing schools and businesses, and making travel a challenge.

If adverse weather conditions and other emergency situations make it necessary to cancel school, delay the beginning of school, or send students home early, the following information details the East Grand Rapids Public Schools procedures. Weather related data for closings or delays is collected by 5:00 a.m. from district staff members. Based on the data collected, the superintendent then makes a decision regarding school closures or delays. The decisions will be posted as soon as possible on the East Grand Rapids website, www.egrps.org. Announcements will be made on the following local stations: Wood-TV 8, WZZM TV 13, Fox 17, WWMT TV 3, Wood Radio (105.7 FM), 1300 AM, and most other Grand Rapids area radio stations.

IN THE EVENT OF A TWO HOUR DELAY

All classes will start two hours later than the building start time. The decision whether to hold A.M. Kindergarten or A.M. ECSE (Early Childhood Special Education) at the later start time will be decided on the day in question and will be posted on the media outlets described above.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION

East Grand Rapids Public Schools Transportation Director will call Dean Transportation to inform them of a closing or delay.

IN THE EVENT OF SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Day care and preschool schedules follow the same closure as the District. A decision will be made early in the afternoon regarding cancelling of sporting events, evening programs, and practices.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH

All students will be dismissed at the regular time unless severe weather conditions exist.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING

All students may be detained if severe weather conditions exist.

TORNADO WATCH

All students will be kept at school if the watch is issued during the school day. Students will be dismissed at the regular time unless severe weather conditions exist. If a tornado watch occurs outside of school hours, the school district will not begin any school activities (i.e., sports, PTA, etc.) If a tornado watch is issued while the activities are in progress, the students, participants, audience, and attendees will be dismissed and the activities will stop immediately. After school activities may be held if such activities are scheduled to begin one hour after a tornado watch has been lifted.

TORNADO WARNING

All students will be kept at school if the warning is issued during the school day and will be instructed to take shelter within the building until the ALL CLEAR is signaled. Students will not be sent home.

If a tornado warning occurs outside of school hours, the school district will not begin any school activities (i.e., sports, PTA, etc.) If a tornado warning is issued while the activities are in progress, the students, participants, audience, and attendees will seek shelter within the building immediately.

After school activities may be held if such activities are scheduled to begin one hour after a tornado warning has been lifted.

TALKING POINTS

Parents are encouraged to make individual decisions regarding children's school attendance on days with inclement weather, especially for preschool and primary students. These children are more apt to be affected by delays, or personal apprehensiveness.