

## BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

October, 2016

Dear Brookfield Families,

Once again we are facing the time of year when New England weather can be very unpredictable and severe. Area superintendents of schools must ensure that each district meets the state mandated number of school days and number of instructional hours in a safe and secure manner. The decision to close, delay or dismiss school early is always made with students safety in mind. The process to make such a decision involves, not only the superintendent and support team, it also includes the consulting meteorologist, All-Star Transportation, the Brookfield Police Department, Public Works, and the Parks & Recreation Department who plow the school driveways and parking lots. Below I have outlined specific details regarding schedule changes due to inclement winter weather.

A delayed opening for all schools will be two (2) hours. I try to make a decision to close or delay the opening of school by 5:30 a.m. based upon what is expected to happen in the next two to eight hours. Stay tuned when a delay has been announced since it might turn into a cancellation if weather conditions do not improve. Radio, television, school bus operators, staff and designated Internet-based sites will be notified immediately. Follow me on Twitter, [@supr\\_barile](#) and visit the school website as well for such announcements. Additionally, we will send a **Schoolmessenger email** to notify staff and families of changes to the schedule.

Although early dismissals are avoided whenever possible, on rare occasions it may be necessary to dismiss school early due to the unexpected deterioration of weather conditions. In these situations, an announcement will be issued by 9:30 a.m. Weather related early dismissal for school is as follows: Brookfield High School- 10:30 a.m., Whisconier Middle School- 11:00 a.m., and Huckleberry Hill & Center Elementary Schools- 11:35 a.m.

Families should have an emergency back-up plan in place in the event of an early dismissal. Please make sure the children understand where they should go in the event of an early dismissal from school. Child care arrangements at home or on the same bus route should be made in advance of the early dismissal day since it will be impossible for the school staff to personally contact each parent. On days when the weather may be problematic, please stay tuned to the local radio and/or television station or other communication media as indicated above to be aware of an early dismissal. As alternate drop-off and pick-up procedures vary from school to school, parents should follow the established procedure for their child's specific school.

When school is cancelled, unless otherwise indicated, all activities and meetings are also cancelled. The school buildings will be closed.

The decision to delay, close school, or dismiss early is often a difficult one. During inclement weather when an administrative decision to open school has been made, this is not meant to preclude a family's choice to keep their children home. Families are encouraged to exercise their own judgment in such cases.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding in making such decisions.

Sincerely,



John W. Barile, Sr.