

ADVERSE WEATHER BULLETIN

Safety first! During inclement weather conditions, it may be necessary to close centers entirely. Please keep this bulletin as a reference for those occasions.

Late starts or closures are usually determined very early and are announced by the media starting at 5:00 a.m. If you feel the weather may create hazardous traveling conditions, continue to listen to the media throughout the day for early dismissal announcements.

LATE START – 1 or 2 hour delay:

All AM Sessions will be closed, but PM Sessions are open.

EARLY DISMISSAL:

If schools dismiss early, we will cancel afternoon sessions that day.

SCHOOL CLOSURES:

All Before and After School Care centers are closed when school is closed.

EMERGENCY CLOSURE:

1. If there is an unforeseen emergency situation that dismisses school early, we will follow the “Emergency Notification” information you submitted this year.
2. **If you listed the Before and After School Care (BASC) program, as your first emergency option, you need to change that option because BASC centers will be closed in emergency situations.**
3. If it ever is necessary to evacuate a school, student safety will be our first priority; notification of parents will be the next priority. We will also post information at each center location prior to evacuation.
4. If it is ever necessary to transport students in an emergency situation, we will use district transportation.
5. Earthquake kits are available at each center.

TUNE IN TO THE FOLLOWING STATIONS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT LATE STARTS AND CLOSURES:

AM Radio: KCIS 630; KH20 850; KIRO 710; KIXI 880; KKBY 1450; KKDZ 1250; KLAY 1180; KMPS 1300; KNWX 770; KOMO 1000; KRKO 1380; KRPM 1090; KVI 570

FM Radio: KCMS 105.3; KIRO 100.7; KJR 95.7; KKBY 104.9; KLSY 92.5; KMPS 94.1; KMTT 103.7; KPLU 88.5; KPLZ 101.5; KRPM 106.1; KRWM 106.9; KSER 90.7; KUBE 93.3; KUOW 94.9; KVTI 90.9; KYCW 96.5

TV Stations: KING TV 5; KIRO TV 7; KOMO TV 4; KSTW TV 11

WEATHER-RELATED SCHEDULE CHANGES...WHO DECIDES? WHEN? HOW?

The district’s 110 square miles can be a checkerboard of varying weather conditions. To keep tabs on the differences and potential problems, district personnel “drive the roads” starting at 3am. Those road scouts report conditions to our transportation department and district administrators who decide if schedule adjustments are necessary and to what extent.

Understanding the need for thousands of people to know their decision, the early morning team’s goal is to kick into action **by 5 am**, the following system of notification:

- **Emergency weather network** relays our decision (and that of all regional districts) to a web page that the media uses for their reports.
 - TV stations scroll regional school schedules at the bottom of their screens during morning newscasts—ideally updating their scrolls all morning as the Internet system picks up school reports.
 - Radio stations announce schedules—also ideally including full reports and details as the information appears on their Internet sources.
- **District web page**, www.issaquah.wednet.edu, gives details and also connects to the emergency weather web page where parents and staff can check for information—sometimes getting it more quickly than it appears in the media.
- **District E-News** messages add a layer of communication links with all subscribers.
- **District level phone messages** inform those who call 837-7000.
- **School phone messages** have the same pre-dawn schedule information.

WHY ARE SCHEDULE CHANGES NECESSARY ANYWAY?

Deciding to delay or cancel school is a tough decision that must be made hours before buses and cars enter the roadways. Given the changeability of our weather and the size of our district, a decision may make sense in part of the district at one

time and seem absolutely irrational at another time and place. The paramount factor behind any change is **safety**, “Is it or when will it be safe for thousands of students, parents, and staff to head to school?”

The next most significant factor is **timing for communication**, “Based upon conditions now and predictions for later, we must make a decision in time for the communication process to work.”

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THERE’S A LATE START ON A LEARNING IMPROVEMENT CALENDAR WEDNESDAY?

If a weather delay happens on Wednesday, we will shift all schools’ Wednesday start times by the 1 or 2 hours traditionally required to ensure that roads are safe enough for travel to school. Wednesday afternoon dismissal times will not change.