



Weather Closures & Delays

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Chancellor will make the city-wide decision to close or delay the opening of schools during stormy weather after consultation with other City officials. All authorized delayed openings will result in the regular starting time being two hours later.

By 6:00 A.M., the decision is announced on the **311 Information Line**, on the Department of Education website Home Page (which can be accessed at <http://schools.nyc.gov>)

The Division of Public Affairs will notify the news wire services, radio and television stations as soon as possible prior to 6:00 A.M. School staff and parents should be advised to listen to information broadcast by any of the following radio stations: WINS (1010 AM), WCBS (880 AM), WLIB (1190 AM), WBLS (107.5 FM), WNYE (91.5 FM), as well as the following television stations: WCBS (Channel 2), WNBC (Channel 4), WNYW (Fox Channel 5), WABC (Channel 7), WNYE (Channel 25), and “NY 1” (Channel 1 on cable television).

When there is an authorized citywide school closing or delayed school opening, the following will be cancelled unless the Chancellor makes an announcement to the contrary: All field trips, all after-school programs (including Community-Based Organization after-school programs on public school sites), and all after-school program transportation (including transportation to after-school programs at Community-Based Organization sites).

It is expected that when there is a delayed opening, students will be in school until their regular dismissal time. However, if citywide emergency conditions or a storm worsen, the Chancellor may have to announce an early dismissal. The Chancellor will notify bus services of the earlier dismissal schedule. You should advise your child to tell the teacher if no

one is at home at the time of an authorized early dismissal. You should have plans in place with a relative, friend or neighbor in case your child is released early and you will not be home to care for him or her. Your child should know of this plan. Please note that you must have listed that relative, friend or neighbor on the school's "BLUE EMERGENCY CONTACT CARD" because schools are not authorized to release pupils to persons not listed on that card. You should make certain that the card is up-to-date. If your child takes a school bus, school staff will remain in school with the bused children until buses arrive for dismissal or until your child is picked up.

If you have a child with a disability, you should use your discretion in deciding whether to send him or her to school when there is a delayed opening. If your child has medical or other health issues requiring nursing or other services, during the school day, including services requiring a nurse or paraprofessional to ride on the bus, you should consider not sending your child to school. Please be reminded that your child will not be picked up if a nurse or paraprofessional who is required to ride with him or her is not aboard the school bus.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Holly Bonner, MPA,MSW, CASAC
Parent Coordinator

