



TAFT SCHOOL DISTRICT 90

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"We Believe All Children Can Learn"

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE ENTIRE TAFT COMMUNITY

In preparation of possible weather that could impact school attendance, we share the following key points with you as reminders:

First, **PLAN FOR SCHOOL TO BE OPEN**. Do not call the school or district office to see if school is closed. We will decide if school is to be closed and communicate that decision as early as possible through our usual channels – the district web site, the local and regional television and radio stations, www.emergencyclosings.com, and through a School Messenger message.

Second, remember that **bad weather affects all traffic (foot, bike, and cars)**. Be **CAUTIOUS** around Taft and side streets. We have a large number of Taft students who walk or bike to school, and we want all students and staff to arrive safely.

Third, if it appears that the bad weather will clear early enough for us to safely conduct school, we **may** use a **"Late Start Schedule"** and open school two hours later than normal. This option allows us to meet state calendar requirements without having to make up snow days at the end of the year. It is similar to our early release plan for excessive heat which we have been using since August of 2012. Please see the **"Late Start Schedule"** below. This information is also posted on the district web site.

Visit the district web site and click on **"School Closings"** for details about the "Late Start" schedule, and more important information including a complete list of television and radio stations that will carry our school closing information.

Most importantly, please notify your school immediately when you change your personal contact information so that you will get the School Messenger messages about school closings, schedule changes, and other pressing matters.

Sincerely,

Dr. DJ Skogsberg
Superintendent

Taft School District 90 Plan for INCLEMENT WEATHER

Purpose: To address safe travel conditions, and to provide a safe and productive learning environment for the students of Taft School.

Reasoning: Lake effect snowfall, extreme cold, and other such winter associated issues which face our community either in isolation or in combination place our students and staff in unsafe conditions. In an effort to still meet state calendar requirements without having to make up snow days at the end of the year, this plan will allow for school to still be in attendance, albeit delayed in starting.

Plan: Upon the occasion that Taft School is faced with inclement weather deemed to be a threat to the safety and wellbeing of the students and staff, the Superintendent, in his/her professional judgment, may execute this plan.

1. school may be cancelled as in the case of inclement winter weather; OR
 2. if weather projections indicate the clearing of inclement weather and hazardous conditions in time to facilitate a late start, school start may be delayed for two hours; OR
 3. if school is already in session, school may be closed early as a 5-hour day.
- **In the event school is cancelled**, an outcall will first go out to parents/guardians, neighboring districts and media outlets will be notified, and notice will be placed on the school's website.
 - **In the event school is in session when weather or hazardous conditions necessitate early dismissal**, an outcall will first go out to parents/guardians, neighboring districts and media outlets will be notified, and notice will be placed on the school's website.
 - For those students who arrive at school, or remain at school despite the execution of this plan, an initial cooling station in the auditorium will be established to include fans and chilled water until a parent/guardian or emergency contact comes to school to pick up the student.
 - To ensure that students are dismissed safely and to an appropriate care provider, we will REQUIRE parents to pick up their child(ren) or have their designated adult emergency contact person pick up their child(ren).
 - **In the event school is set for a delayed start**, an outcall will first go out to parents/guardians, neighboring districts and media outlets will be notified, notice will be placed on the school's website, and the following shifts to the school day will take place:
 - Start time will be at 10:15 a.m.
 - Dismissal will be at 3:15 p.m.
 - There will be NO AM Kindergarten.
 - PM Kindergarten will be in session at their normal start time.
 - Speech services will be cancelled, and make up times coordinated as schedules will allow.
 - In the event school is cancelled prior to the start of the day, administrators, office staff, and custodians will report to school.
 - In the event that school is closed as a 5-hour dismissal, all staff will remain at school during "normal business hours."
 - If this plan is executed, resulting in early dismissal or full school closing, **any hosted activities are also cancelled**, and the coach/sponsor will make proper notification to the participation school(s) and officials.