

# Introducing New Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools

In an effort to increase student safety during winter months, Denver Public Schools is introducing a new Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools that will delay schools that start at or after 8:30 a.m. for 1 hour. All other schools will proceed with their normal schedule.

Your family is receiving this information because your student's school may be impacted by the Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools. For a full list of identified schools, visit: <http://transportation.dpsk12.org/safety/weather/>.

The purpose of this new delay schedule is to provide school buses additional time to pick up students and reduce student wait time in severe weather. The decision to close or delay school will be made by the Superintendent based on information provided by representatives from the DPS Transportation Department, transportation agencies and the weather bureau.



## **IF DPS SCHOOLS EXPERIENCE A WEATHER DELAY SCHEDULE FOR IDENTIFIED SCHOOLS:**

- Morning school buses will run the delay schedule and begin pickups at bus stops 1 hour later than the normal pick up time. (Example: If your morning school bus pickup time is 7:55 a.m., your bus will pick-up at 8:55 a.m.)
- Students walking, biking, carpooling or taking RTD are encouraged to leave home 1 hour later than they would normally leave for school. (Example: If student leaves home at 7:45 a.m. for school, he or she would now depart at 8:45 a.m. to arrive on time to school.)
- ECE & Kindergarten: Morning (AM) kindergarten will not be canceled. They will run in accordance with the delay. Afternoon (PM) preschool students will attend school and have bus service on their normal schedule.
- Breakfast will still be served to students as they arrive to school.



## **IF ALL DPS SCHOOLS CLOSE DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER:**

- Transportation will not run any buses.
- All after-school activities, which include middle and high school sports, are cancelled and transportation will not be provided for these activities.
- Please make the necessary plans for the care of your student in the event that school is canceled.



## **IF DPS SCHOOLS REMAIN OPEN DURING SEVERE WEATHER:**

- The district will monitor the weather throughout the day to ensure student safety.
- The required transportation will be provided. However, services may be modified to ensure bus driver and student safety.
- Traffic conditions may require students to spend additional time in route to school, special activities, programs or home.
- If severe weather begins during the school day, a decision may be made regarding early dismissal.
- Bus routes will run in the same order as normally followed in the afternoon. Depending on conditions, arrival times at home may vary.
- After school activities (athletic events, enrichment programs, etc.) may be modified or canceled as a result of the weather conditions.



## **HOW YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED:**

To ensure you receive communication around the new delay schedule or school closure, a new communication process has been implemented. In the event of inclement weather, district officials will make the decision by 4:30 a.m. If the decision is made to close or delay school, local television and radio stations will be notified immediately and broadcast regular announcements of school closures or delays. You can also visit the [DenverChannel.com](http://DenverChannel.com), [9News.com](http://9News.com), [KDVR.com](http://KDVR.com) and [denver.cbslocal.com](http://denver.cbslocal.com). Notifications in Spanish will be made on radio newscasts on 1150 AM, 1280 AM and 1090 AM.

- Emergency school closures or weather delay will be posted on the district's homepage ([www.dpsk12.org](http://www.dpsk12.org)) and the DPS Transportation homepage (<http://transportation.dpsk12.org/>) immediately.
- Announcements to close or delay school will also be posted to the district's Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DenverPublicSchools](http://www.facebook.com/DenverPublicSchools)) and Twitter (@DPSNewsNow) pages.
- A message denoting the closure or late start will also be left on the school district's closure hotline at 720.423.3200, as well on the DPS Transportation hotline at 720-423-4600.
- Students who ride the yellow school bus will be notified of a weather delay by a new tool called Bus Bulletin. Bus Bulletin is a program new to Denver Public Schools Transportation that notifies parents of transportation-eligible students of information regarding their student's yellow school bus service. Beginning November 2015, parents will be notified when buses are running more than 15 minutes late due to an emergency or weather delay by text message, email and voice notifications, and on their mobile or home phone. For more information visit, <http://transportation.dpsk12.org/safety/bus-bulletin/>.