

ZCS School Delay/Closing Information

Present or imminent weather conditions (ice, snow, or fog) and power or water related causes are the most common reasons for school delay and closing decisions. A delay or closure decision is preferred by 5:45 AM, though some situations and conditions require decisions to hold into the 6:00 AM hour. In the event of a delay or closure need, the superintendent or his designee will notify television and radio stations of the nature of delay or cancellation. The **ZCS SCHOOL MESSENGER** rapid contact system, school **WEBSITE** (<http://www.zcs.k12.in.us/>), **TWITTER** (<https://twitter.com/MyZvilleSchools>) and **FACEBOOK** (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Zionsville-Community-Schools/232469880125147#!pages/Zionsville-Community-Schools/232469880125147?sk=wall>) will carry the delay or closure information.

- Roads in Eagle and Union townships are driven by district employees between the hours of 3:00 and 5:00 AM on mornings when weather or other conditions warrant.
- Delay/closure decisions are always made with student safety in mind.
- There are no financial penalties for our schools if a delay or cancellation occurs.



PLEASE NOTE! The ultimate decision about whether or not to allow a child to go to school during inclement weather events (or during any other circumstance) rests with the parent/guardian. A parent/guardian's decision to keep a student home due to weather, power outage, etc., **will not** result in academic penalty to the student.

- The consideration of student safety includes thought about students who will be left at home alone without adult supervision during a delay or closure.
- Statistically speaking, yellow school buses provide the safest transportation on earth, but when we determine that they cannot or should not run safely, school delay or cancellation occurs.
- It is common for the superintendent or designee to discuss weather conditions with other local school officials, public safety officials, County and Town road department officials and others before making a delay or cancellation decision.
- Power outages, downed limbs, or other hindrances to travel in some parts of the district, even for extended periods of time, will not always result in school delays or closings for the whole district. Again, the ultimate decision about school attendance rests with the parent/guardian, and school leaders understand and support this principle.
- Indiana weather is fickle. Some delay, closure, and non-delay or non-closure decisions will be proven wrong by Mother Nature even before the delay or closure plays out (fog is often a good example of this). While this truth is unfortunate, we expect it, and we admit the impossibility of predicting the weather, its timing, and its effects upon such a large area.

PLEASE NOTE: The 2015-2016 school calendar will utilize **Friday, May 27, 2016 as a make-up day for the first cancelled school day.** This will be a mandatory attendance day for all students if Mother Nature makes it necessary. **Real-time electronic school days will occur on cancellation days after the first one (to be made up on May 27, if necessary). Accommodations for families without computing devices and/or internet access will be made available and communicated.** *We have missed an average of fewer than two days per school year due to snow/ice since 2006 (except for 2014).*