



Hastings-on-Hudson Public Schools

27 Farragut Avenue

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www.hohschools.org

September 3, 2021

To: Hastings UFSD Families and Staff

RE: Inclement Weather Notifications -- 2021-22 School Year

Alas, the remnants of Tropical Storm Ida beat me to the punch with this important memo. As I have always done annually, I am explaining how we communicate changes to the daily school schedule caused by inclement weather. Witness Ida, problematic weather is far more than an ice and snow concern.

Decisions for school delays, early dismissals, or cancellations are announced as promptly as possible. We track weather patterns to anticipate days when inclement weather may be a problem. Nearly always, final decisions are made early in the morning of the specific school day (when the situation is best understood).

The timeframe on decisions to delay or cancel school is as follows:

- 4:00 a.m. - 5:15 a.m. – Road and campus conditions are checked from various sources. I consult with the Director of Facilities, Hastings Police Department, Hastings Department of Public Works, a regional Meteorologist and Quad Village superintendents.
- By 5:15 a.m. – I make the decision on a school delay or cancellation. Communications to staff and families commence immediately. Staff and transportation providers are notified by 5:30 a.m.; Parents/families are notified by 6:00 a.m.
- Under extraordinary circumstances (i.e., rapidly changing weather), a decision to delay or cancel school may be made later than 5:15 a.m., resulting in a slight lag in our notifications.

We communicate decisions in multiple ways:

- Hastings UFSD Website: <https://www.hohschools.org/>
- Email sent through BlackBoard Connect K-12 Messenger
- Phone call through BlackBoard Connect K-12 Messenger
- Text message sent through BlackBoard Connect K-12 Messenger
- Posting on Hastings UFSD Facebook Page
- TV/Radio Outlets: News 12, LoHud

Please Note: The New York State Education Department has authorized school districts to use Remote Learning Days to avoid “lost school days” when weather prevents the district from opening. We are reviewing with Hastings staff, the Board of Education and area school districts what mix of Remote Learning Days and “Old Fashioned Snow Days” we will use this school year. We will update you immediately with the selected approach.

Very important: we will only communicate when the school schedule has changed. We will not communicate when school is in session as scheduled.