

As Superintendent of Schools, the health and safety of the District's students is always my first priority. With this in mind, the decision to close schools due to snow or other hazardous weather conditions is one that is taken seriously. I am informed by both local and national weather services of predicted conditions in our area. I also consult with the District's Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds with regard to specific road conditions in our community.

In the past, when I closed our schools due to hazardous conditions it had always been for the full day. I notified families through Connect-Ed the night before or early in the morning the day of the closing. However, there is always the possibility the weather and road conditions will deteriorate throughout the course of the day. I would like to have a plan in place to release our students early should this situation ever occur.

The procedure will be as follows:

1. For example, if on a Sunday evening the weather service predicts heavy snow for Monday around midday, **I will make a Connect-Ed call Sunday evening indicating the strong possibility of an early release on Monday, enabling you to make child care arrangements ahead of time.** Please remember to notify your school in writing should your "dismissal" arrangements need to change for early release. Be sure to share those arrangements with your child before he/she leaves for school.
2. If mid-morning on Monday the predicted weather forecast is correct, I will make another Connect-Ed call informing parents of the time early dismissal will begin.
3. The schools will be released in the following order:
 - Northport High School
 - The six elementary schools
 - The two middle schools

Releasing the high school students first serves two purposes. It allows the student drivers to leave school before the buses are on the road and also enables high school students to serve as babysitters.

If you have any questions, please call the main office of your school for further clarification. I thank you in advance for working in partnership with the District to protect the health and safety of our children.