

Tolland Public Schools

51 TOLLAND GREEN

Tolland, CT 06084

October 26, 2015

Dear Parent or Guardian:

I want to take this opportunity to inform you of the District's procedures regarding school closings, delays, and early dismissals.

The decision to change school schedules is made after careful review of information collected from the local police, highway, school maintenance departments, and a local weather service. Road conditions, sidewalk status, precipitation, temperatures and forecasts are considered when making a determination to delay or close schools. In some circumstances, a delay may be upgraded to a school closing. Information related to delayed openings and school closures is broadcasted on television and radio stations typically by approximately 5:45 a.m. The safety of our children is the priority factor in all decision making.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT 5

The *Blackboard Connect 5* communication system is a telephone messaging service that the district uses that enables us to personally communicate with parents and staff regarding emergency situations, school closings and delays, school events and other important issues impacting you and your children. It is imperative that you keep a current emergency telephone number listed at your child's school building. In the event of an early dismissal or delay, a Blackboard message will be broadcast to all families by 5:45 a.m. During an emergency or weather related incident, calls will be made through the emergency mode to all student numbers in the Blackboard system.

DELAYED OPENINGS

- This year we will utilize either a 90 minute (1 ½ hour) or a two (2) hour delay. The message you receive will inform you as to the length of the delay.
- In the event of a two (2) hour delay, preschool classes will be cancelled.
- Buses will arrive at stops approximately 90 minutes (1 ½ hours) or two (2) hours later than the usual time.

EARLY DISMISSAL

- An announcement will be made on the radio and television stations, generally prior to 11:00 a.m.

- The high school is usually released at approximately 11:47 a.m. Tolland Middle School is released at 12:35 pm and Tolland Intermediate and Birch Grove Primary School are released at 1:20 pm. (Please note that unusual circumstances may dictate an early dismissal before those given times)
- There is no p.m. pre-school classes on early dismissal days.

In the event of school closings or early dismissals, all sporting events and student activities will be cancelled.

TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS

Students in grades PreK-5 will be returned to school in the event an adult is not present at the bus stop to meet them unless you have signed the bus stop release form.

ALL STORM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements will be made on the following TV Stations:

WTNH

WFSB

WVIT

WTIC

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to monitor weather related delays, closings, and early dismissals and to cooperate with school personnel as we work to ensure student safety.

TOLLAND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER'S INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

If the Tolland Public School is closed due to inclement weather then the Tolland Family Resource Center is closed.

Weather delays and early closings

School Age Care

The Before School Program will follow the School System for delays:

* 90 minutes delay the FRC opens at 8:30 a.m.

* 2 hour delay the FRC opens at 9:00 a.m for children registered in the before school program for that day. (This is to allow enough time for the parking lot and sidewalks to be treated)

Early Dismissal

When there is an early dismissal due to inclement weather the FRC will close at 3:45 p.m. However, if Birch Grove and Tolland Intermediate School closes before 1:20 p.m. then FRC will close 2 hours after the end of school; example if Birch Gove closes at 11:00 a.m. then FRC will close at 1:00 p.m.

Late fees pick up fees apply on early dismissals.

Preschool

If Tolland Schools have a delayed opening due to weather, morning preschool will open at 10:45 a.m. and will run until 11: 45 a.m. If there is a two hour delay the Three Year Old Preschool is cancelled. Four Year Old afternoon Preschool will start at 12:30 p.m. as usual.

If Tolland Schools have an early dismissal, the afternoon Four Year Old Preschool will be cancelled.

Preschool Enrichment

Preschool Enrichment will follow the public school for delays, if school opens 90 minutes late the program will open at 10:30 a.m. If it is a 2 hour delay then Preschool Enrichment will open at 11:00 a.m. If school closes early Preschool Enrichment will close at 1:00 P.M.

Play groups are cancelled on delays or early closings.

Please remember to call if your child will not be attending.

Finally, I want to assure you, once again, that our primary concern is calling school delays, early dismissal or closure is always the safety of our children. If parents feel conditions are unsafe, they should use their discretion and keep their children at home. Here's hoping for warm and uneventful winter!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter Willett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Walter Willett, Ph.D
Superintendent of Schools

