



Mr. Leo W. Cavinder
Superintendent of Schools

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS CORPORATION

Different. On Purpose.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Each year, questions surface as to who makes decisions regarding school delays and closings and what factors are considered. At RCS, we rely on a team consisting of our Transportation Director, Maintenance Director, and the Central Administration. This team advises the Superintendent of Schools on conditions related to visibility, temperature, snow accumulation/predictions, road conditions, snow-plow progress reports, the feasibility of starting buses, and the clearing of parking lots, sidewalks, etc.

We strive to make a final determination by 6:35 AM (CT). Team members rise early to contact sources and travel roads before reporting their findings. Once a determination is made, we then begin communicating the delay or cancellation via automated phone messaging, texts, website posting, and possible media sources. There is no easy rule to follow when making decisions regarding delays and cancellations. Temperatures below zero do concern us. However, temperatures well above zero can product wind chills below zero. Complicating matter is the fact that La Porte County is the second largest county in Indiana, and temperatures, wind chills, and thermometer readings vary within the county. We are committed to erring on the side of caution while balancing the reality that severe weather conditions are likely during our winters and the real world doesn't close or have two-hour delays.

We want our parents to be at ease reading the safety of our children. If your child is in are area bus-served by the district, we encourage you to take that advantage of that option. Our drivers are committed to safely transporting your children.

Lastly, in the event that you are uncomfortable sending your child to school because of the weather conditions, you have the right under Indiana law to keep your child at home until such time that you believe that conditions are favorable for safe travel. Schools in the district allow for a reasonable number of parent-excused absences before we initiate excessive-absence interventions.

Respectfully,

Leo W. Cavinder

Superintendent of Schools

