Colchester Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In preparation for inclement weather and the winter season, this correspondence explains the procedures regarding **no school, delayed opening, and/or early closing**. The District website also contains information on these topics: School Closings

NO SCHOOL OR DELAYED SCHOOL OPENING PROCEDURES

Main Method of Communication

Announcements will be broadcast through the radio and television stations listed below. If possible, these announcements will be broadcast beginning at 5:00 AM. We request that you do not call the schools, M&J Bus Company, or the radio/TV stations, as it ties up telephone lines that may be needed for emergencies. **I highly recommend that you sign up for Early Warning Text/Email Alerts at one of the stations listed below**.

Television Stations
FOX 61
Channel 3 (WFSB)
Channel 8 (WTNH)
Channel 30 (WVIT)

Radio Stations
WTIC (AM1080/FM96.5)
WCTY (FM97.7)
WKNL/ROXY (FM100.9)
WICH (AM1310)

The District will also text and/or email you. You must opt in to receive text message alerts through SchoolMessenger. **Simply text the word YES to the number 67587**. The number that you will receive the text message from is 67587. (We will still continue to call you, however, for unscheduled early dismissals.) If a "no school" decision can be made the previous evening before 9:00PM, in addition to emailing you, **announcements will be broadcast through the radio and television stations** listed above. We will not text after 9:00PM.

The schedule for a **2-hour delayed opening** of school is as follows:

School	Start Time	End Time
PreK / Early Childhood Program – AM	Cancelled	Cancelled
PreK / Early Childhood Program – PM	12:40 PM	3:10 PM
Colchester Elementary School – Grades K-2 & School Day Prek	10:35 AM	3:15 PM
Jack Jackter Intermediate School – Grades 3-5	10:35 AM	3:15 PM
William J. Johnston Middle School – Grades 6-8	9:20 AM	2:00 PM
Bacon Academy – Grades 9-12	9:35 AM	2:15 PM

EARLY CLOSING PROCEDURE

A decision to close school early due to inclement weather and rapidly changing weather conditions will be announced by 10:00AM by the listed radio and TV stations. In addition, **for unanticipated early closings**, the District will call you.

When schools are dismissed early, the following will also be cancelled: PM Pre-K, all afternoon Early Childhood Program classes, extracurricular activities, and after-school community activities.

The schedule for an **early closing** is detailed below:

School	Start Time	End Time
PreK / Early Childhood Program – AM	8:35 AM	10:35 AM
PreK / Early Childhood Program – PM	Cancelled	Cancelled
Colchester Elementary School – Grades K-2 & School Day Prek	8:35 AM	12:55 PM
Jack Jackter Intermediate School – Grades 3-5	8:35 AM	12:55 PM
William J. Johnston Middle School – Grades 6-8	7:20 AM	11:40 AM
Bacon Academy – Grades 9-12	7:35 AM	11:55 PM

Often, rapidly-changing weather conditions can have a dramatic impact on our timeline in making a final determination regarding school closures. However, every effort is made to make the safest and most responsible decision regarding the operation of the schools and the transportation of students.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey E. Burt
Superintendent of Schools