

SNOW DAY PROCEDURE

The following procedures are to be implemented to alert staff, students, and parents of a delay in the start time or closure of, Kennewick Schools.

If no mention of a delay or closure is on our district's web site, or aired on television or radio stations, then schools are running on time in Kennewick. By 6:00 a.m., radio and television stations should have received information from the school district via the Flash Alert system if there is a delay or closure.

A message will be posted on the home page of the Kennewick School District web site. Individual schools are not to post delay or closure information on their websites. It is advised that a message and link be placed on school websites directing back to the district's homepage for delay or closure information.

Delay and closure messages will NOT be put on the district's Snow Hotline in English or Spanish this year. The snow line became so popular it crashed our phone systems last year. Therefore, **do not advertise the snow line in your newsletter or other publications.** Advise that the best options are to check the KSD website (and hit the refresh button if they re-check it,) listen to radio stations, or follow the district on Twitter.

In the event that the weather does not improve a decision may be made to go from a delay to a closure, so it is important for students, parents, and staff to continue monitoring. Every effort will be made to have a final decision by 6:45 a.m.

Snow Day messages to news outlets are being shortened to reduce errors when those messages are edited by media to fit their broadcasts. It will be important to communicate that a two-hour delay means "no breakfast, no a.m. kindergarten, no morning Keewaydin or ECEAP classes, and no morning Tri-Tech classes, etc."

Media that will be alerted via Flash Alert if there is a delay or closure:

Ch. 19 KEPR TV CBS

Ch. 25 KNDU TV NBC

Ch. 42 KVEW TV ABC

KALE 960 / KTCR 1340 / KEGX 106.5 / KKSJ 95.7 / KIOK 94.9 / KUJ 99.1 - Kennewick

KMNA 98.7 - Spanish

KONA 610, 105.3 (English) / KZHR 92.5 (Spanish)

KORD 102.7, 87 / KXRX 97.1 / KEYW 98.3 / KFLD 870 / KOLW 97.5 - Pasco 2009

KZTB 97.9 / KMMG 96.7 Spanish

NorthWest Public Radio - KFAE 89.1 FM

Tri-City Herald Online

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/KennewickSchoolDistrict>

Procedures for Athletics on Snow Days

If School is Cancelled for the Day

No games are played and no practices are held when school is cancelled for the day. If there are extremely unique situations, Athletic Directors may contact the Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education to discuss exceptions.

If School is Cancelled for the Day and the Next Day is Saturday

If weather conditions have improved on Saturday, Athletic Directors in consultation with their Principals, Maintenance Department Director, and Transportation Director may elect to play games. Factors to consider include current and upcoming weather, safe transportation by athletes and spectators both to home and away sites, accessibility of buildings including sidewalks and parking lots, availability of officials and other game personnel, and other safety issues and concerns.

If School is Delayed for the Day

If school is held, games may be played. Factors to consider when determining whether or not to play include current and upcoming weather, safe transportation by athletes and spectators both to home and away sites, accessibility of buildings including sidewalks and parking lots, availability of officials and other game personnel, and other safety issues and concerns.

If cancellations occur on a school day, the Director of Communications will assist in getting out the word to local media. If cancellations occur on a Saturday, it is the responsibility of the Athletic Director to get the word out to the local media.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

THINK FIRST ABOUT THE SAFETY OF ATHLETES AND SPECTATORS!

Games can be rescheduled.

For School Websites and School Newsletter

(Note, this will also be posted on the district's public web page)

School Delays and Closures Due to Weather

We take your child's safety very seriously. If ever you disagree with our decision regarding school delays or closures, please know that it is considered an excused absence if you decide to keep your child home from school. Please inform and provide your child's school with a signed note. **The final decision on whether or not to send your child to school is yours.**

With more than 16,000 students and 1,800 staff, making changes to the school day is very difficult, particularly at the last minute. Even with all of the messages we send out to the media and post on our website, we still have students being dropped off at school when we have announced a delay or closure. Further, closure after school is in session would be extremely difficult. Once students have been dropped off at school or daycare, there is no way to contact every parent or caregiver to inform them of a change to bus schedules or the school day. Many of those parents have gone to work and contacting them is very difficult. It is important that we do not cause a situation where students are home or elsewhere without adult supervision.

Get Closure and Delay Messages Sent to your E-mail and/or Mobile Phone

Parents and students wishing to receive Kennewick School District weather closure/delay announcements via text message or email can sign up by going to: <http://flashalert.net/news.html?id=2176>. When you get to that page, start the process by entering your email address and setting a password. Once the account is established, you may add one or two additional email or cell text addresses. Each new entry will require you to launch a test message to that address which will contain a three-letter code which must be entered back onto your account page to ensure that the address(es) are valid. **If you already have an active account, you do not need to sign up again.** Call Lorraine Cooper with any questions at 222-7424