

SUBJECT: APS Winter Weather Procedures

Dear Families:

In preparation for “winter weather” months, I want to take this time to share the Arlington Public Schools (APS) Winter Weather Procedures for closings, delayed openings and early dismissals. The safety of our students, employees and visitors is always our primary consideration in the decision-making process. APS works closely with County and regional partners to monitor the forecasts provided by the National Weather Service and communicates decisions as soon as they are made.

APS makes every effort to make decisions regarding closings or delayed openings in the evening by 6 p.m., understanding that parents need time to make arrangements. However, if the forecast is uncertain and still developing, APS waits to get the latest forecast and assess actual road conditions in the morning. Morning decisions will be announced by 5 a.m. Additionally, if a delayed opening has been announced the night before, and the forecast or conditions worsened overnight, APS may update the status and announce that all school buildings will be closed for the day.

We have created a variety of resources on our website, including:

- An infographic outlining our decision procedures both outside of and during school hours;
- A separate infographic highlighting our closing conditions and how they affect schools and activities; and
- Frequently Asked Questions.

Our 2019-20 APS Student Handbook (pp. 23-24) offers additional information. APS provides information about changes in operating status in a variety of ways, including our website, local media, social media and School Talk email messages and text alerts. Please make sure your contact information is accurate in ParentVUE so that you receive information regarding operating status in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cintia Z. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "C".

Cintia Johnson
Interim Superintendent