

What You Need To Know: School Closings, Delays and Early Dismissals



AVON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Dr. Margaret Hoernemann, Superintendent



School Closings, Delays and Dismissals

During inclement weather or mechanical failure of heat, water, etc., it may be necessary to delay, close or dismiss Avon schools early. Decisions are made first and foremost regarding the safety of our students. When Avon Community School Corporation determines that it is necessary to delay/cancel school, notification is sent to parents/guardians, the media and our social media sites.

Keep These Points in Mind

- Parents are the ultimate decision makers about their children attending school. If you do not agree with our decision, you as a parent have every right to keep your child home if you believe conditions are unsafe. Likewise, if you have a teenage driver for whom driving conditions are difficult, he/she may ride the bus.
- We recognize that for many parents an early dismissal or delayed start is a tremendous inconvenience. While we keep this in mind, student safety is our first consideration.
- On days when weather forces us to dismiss early, you can assist us by not calling the schools. Please check our website, social media pages and media outlets for the latest information.
- Create a plan with your children about what they should do in the event of an unanticipated early dismissal.
- Early sports practices (6 a.m. starts) may be a challenge on delayed/cancelled days, so please work with your student's coach on a plan.
- The decisions made in other counties or even other schools in Hendricks County may be different. Many other schools have walkers whereas ACSC transports the majority of its students.

THE PROCESS

The process, timing and rationale for delays/cancellations due to inclement weather is a collaborative process with local authorities and area superintendents. When inclement weather is expected, local authorities have a conference call during which a decision may be made the night before if there is certainty of unsafe conditions. If a certain decision cannot be determined the prior evening, ACSC staff will drive the roads starting around 4 a.m. A conference call with local authorities typically follows to compare notes on conditions throughout the county. We coordinate with the Hendricks County Sheriff, Emergency Management and Indiana Homeland Security.

NOTIFICATION

To ensure that you can be notified by your school when emergencies, newsletters and weather delays or closures are announced, parents/guardians of ACSC students may adjust preferences to receive telephone, email and/or text messages. Only primary telephone, and primary email address provided by parents/guardians during student enrollment will be contacted automatically unless your preferences have been adjusted. If you want to change your call preferences or add text messaging, please visit <http://go.schoolmessenger.com>. From this page you may download the app for iPhone, Android or use the webpage to sign up. When you sign up please use the email address on file at your child's school. You will know if the email address is correct because your contact information and child's name will display in "contacts" of portal after your sign up is complete. If your child's name and your contact information is not present, please contact your child's school to have PowerSchool updated with your current email address.

E-LEARNING

In fall of 2017, ACSC received approval from the Indiana Department of Education to implement the e-Learning practice to prepare for limited instances when we do encounter inclement weather. Instead of using a snow makeup day, we believe that utilizing an E-Learning Day will help with the continuity of student learning as opposed to adding a day for children to attend school after the regular school calendar ends. Without e-learning days as an option, other makeup days would have to be added, which would extend the school year into June. Here are two links with additional information: <https://www.avon-schools.org/Page/13358> and <https://www.avon-schools.org/Page/13391>

CHECK THESE STATIONS/SITES FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- WRTV-6
- WCBK-FM 102.3 Martinsville
- WTTV/CBS-4
- WEDJ-FM 107.1 Indianapolis
- WTHR TV-13
- FOX59/WXIN TV
- WISH-TV-8
- WFIU-TV
- WFIU-FM 103.7
- www.avon-schools.org (District Website)
- www.facebook.com/Avon.Schools (Facebook)
- www.twitter.com/OrioleTweets (Twitter)
- <http://www.synoviasolutions.com/here-comes-the-bus/#DownloadTheApp> (Here Comes the Bus)

Additional Points to Keep in Mind

- ◇ Please know that every effort will be made to reach a decision as soon as possible so as to minimize inconvenience to all.
- ◇ There is no specific temperature that will cause us to delay or cancel school. We also consider factors like road conditions, visibility and precipitation. Each situation is reviewed individually.
- ◇ Utilize the “Here Comes the Bus” app to track your child’s school bus.
- ◇ We hope that our parents will work together to support each other and assist with keeping students safe and warm in cars/homes while waiting for buses.
- ◇ While we welcome your feedback, we strongly encourage that feedback be respectful as we all model for our students how to disagree in a civil manner.



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