



Parents and Guardians,

I want to make you aware of a change this year in how we handle extremely cold weather days. This year we will make a two hour late start available to our students and families. This will only be used when cold weather (not driving condition) is the main concern. On those days when the weather warms in the early morning, there is often no need to cancel school for the entire day.

As a reminder, a parent survey showed that a majority preferred this option to cancelling school for the whole day.

We took the concerns of parents who drop off students into consideration. Those parents will be allowed to drop off their students at the regular start time.

On the two-hour late start days, all staff will report to school at their regular time. Students who arrive at the regular start time may receive additional tutoring and/or one-on-one time with teachers.

If we are going to have a late start, you will receive that information by phone as you would a cancellation. Please make sure that you listen fully to messages sent to you on inclement weather days.

Below you will find the answers to some Frequently Asked Questions. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact your building principal.

When the weather is warm in the spring and we are out of school days before our counterparts, I'm sure that we will all appreciate this option.

Sincerely,

Dale Herl
Superintendent, Independence School District

HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN IT IS A LATE START DAY?

You will be notified by all-call as soon as the decision is made.

WHEN DO STAFF MEMBERS GET TO SCHOOL?

All staff members get to school at the normal time.

WHEN WILL SCHOOL START FOR BUS RIDERS AND FOR WALKERS WHOSE PARENTS HAVE CHOSEN A LATE START?

Buses will pick up students two hours after their regular pick up time and students will arrive at school two hours after their regular arrival time.

WHAT IF I DROP MY CHILD AT THE REGULAR START TIME?

That option is available. You would simply drop off your child at the regular time. Staff will be on hand and school will start at the regular time for those students.

WILL SCHOOL LOOK ANY DIFFERENT THAT DAY?

Other than a slightly altered lunch schedule, school will look the same on late start days. School will dismiss at the regular time.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT EARLY EDUCATION?

Part-day Head Start would not have AM class at the Sunshine Center or Hanthorn; Part-day Early Childhood Special Education would not have AM class at Hanthorn. All other classes would continue as normal.