



# Winthrop Public Schools

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*Lisa A. Howard*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

December 19, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope that you and your students are enjoying a great school year. I wanted to provide you with valuable information regarding the upcoming winter months as the unpredictable New England weather presents us with new challenges each school year. Severe weather days may necessitate adjustments in the calendar resulting in delayed opening, cancelation or early dismissal. Please review the information below carefully so that you understand the various changes that we may take on days in which the weather is inclement.

### School Cancellations

School will be canceled for the entire day when there is a situation that may jeopardize the safety of our students. Please be reminded that parents/guardians always have the right to use their best judgement when we do have school on inclement weather days. We will do our best to cancel school at the earliest time possible, preferably the night before, so that you are able to adjust your schedules and/or arrange for child care.

### Delayed Opening

In some situations, school openings may be delayed by a 2-hour time period. If the weather will improve early in the day, this delay will allow for snow/ice removal early in the morning, safe travel for our commuting staff and a safe entrance for all into our school buildings.

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>2 HOUR DELAY START TIME</u>
<b>Gorman For Banks:</b>	Preschool:	A.M. session will be canceled for the day P.M session will be determined by Principal
	Kindergarten	10:00 a.m.
	Grade 1	10:00 a.m.
	Grade 2	9:40 a.m.
<b>A.T. CUMMINGS</b>	Grades 3-5	10:25 a.m.
<b>Winthrop Middle</b>	Grades 6-8	10:30 a.m.
<b>Winthrop High</b>	Grades 9-12	9:55 a.m.

### **Early Dismissal**

On rare occasions it may be necessary to dismiss school early. Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible and preferably the night before if this is to occur. If there is to be an early dismissal due to inclement weather:

- There will be no after school programs or activities
- High School Athletics will be determined on a case by case basis
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Program will be determined per occurrence

### **School Change Announcements**

The best source for the most up-to-date information regarding school closings and schedule changes is available by following our Facebook Page “Winthrop Public Schools”, or visiting the main page of our District’s websites at [www.winthrop.k12.ma.us](http://www.winthrop.k12.ma.us). We will always notify our students and families using the Blackboard Connect phone system in which you will receive a phone call and email notifying you of any upcoming changes. Please be sure to have the most up to date contact on file at the school in which your student attends. We will also put all weather-related changes on the local news stations:

**WHDH (Channel 7) - WCVB (Channel 5) - WBZ (Channel 4) - WFXT (FOX 25)**

### **Other Important Information to Consider:**

- Please do not call the fire or police department(s) to find out if school is canceled or delayed as those lines must be kept clear for emergency purposes.
- If school is canceled or delayed, please do not drop your student off at the regular time as there will be no supervision available for any students.
- Please remember that parents/guardians always reserve the right to use their best judgement on inclement weather days. Please inform the school if you choose to keep your child home on a scheduled school day due to inclement weather

Thank you for your attention to this important information and please contact my office if you have any questions (617) 846-5500. My best to all during this holiday season.

Respectfully,

*Lisa A. Howard*

Lisa A. Howard, M.Ed.

*“The Winthrop Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, gender identity, disability, or homelessness for employment, participation in, admission/access to, or operation and administration of any educational program or activity in the School District”*