



Charleston Elementary School

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Chris Lawson, Principal
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2/3/2022

Charleston Families,

I hope you are all well and looking forward to the first major snow storm of the season! Tomorrow is Flannel Friday! Please remember to wear flannel and bring \$1.00 to support local food shelves.

When deciding school closures for **inclement weather**, please remember that I will try to make the call about school being canceled by 5:30AM. When making the decision, please also know that I discuss with Bernie Pepin (Charleston Road Commissioner), John Castle (Superintendent of NCSU), both bus drivers, local weather forecast, other principals, and what other schools and supervisory unions are doing around us. I understand that regardless of the decision, it impacts families. It is not a decision I take lightly. In addition to the School messenger call, I will also post the closure with public media. Again, I try to make this decision by 5:30AM. It is extremely rare to make the decision the night before.

Next week, Wednesday, February 9th, the **Charleston Elementary School Board** will present the proposed budget for FY23. The meeting will begin at 6:30PM. The public is encouraged to attend the meeting virtually. The meeting warning will be posted on the CES website in the upcoming days. I will forward the link to people once it is published. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the budget prior to the vote on Town Meeting Day. Please let me know if you have any questions.

COVID guidance has recently changed. As you know, John Castle has communicated this change, but I wanted to repeat our procedure at CES. When the school is informed of a positive case, we will communicate with homes about the case and the groups that are “presumed close contacts”. The Agency of Education has stopped the use of Test to Stay. Instead, test kits will be sent home with families. We will not automatically send kits home with kids. We will require families to call the school to request the kits. Families are encouraged to test each day for five days from the last point of contact if unvaccinated. If your child is vaccinated, it is recommended to test on days 4 and 5. Be sure to follow the directions with the test kit. If your child has symptoms of COVID, please do not send them to school. Likewise, if your child tests positive, please do not send them to school.

There will be another **Playgroup** on Monday, February 7th. The flier can be seen on our Facebook page, the CES website, or the link here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tqEh6uXjOz6c8y0gX3K7KDM5tbzawVdt/view?usp=sharing>

Thank you all for your ongoing support, communication, and patience with our school. Each day I am thankful for being in such a cooperative community that care so much for all of our kids! Have a great weekend!

Upcoming important dates:

- 2/4–Flannel Friday
- 2/9 Winter Programming
- 2/9–CES Board Meeting–Informational Budget Meeting
- 2/11–Inservice Day–No School for kids
- 2/21-3/1–Winter Break
- 3/1–Town Meeting Day
- 3/2–Winter Programming

Sincerely,

Chris Lawson, Principal