



November 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety of our students and staff is an important responsibility that we take very seriously. Careful consideration is utilized when making the decision to cancel school, dismiss early, or arrive late. We will confer with the transportation department, police department, public works department, surrounding area schools, and review the latest weather forecast prior to making a final decision on whether to postpone arrival, dismiss early, or have a snow day.

We understand not everyone will agree with each storm day decision. As parents, you have the ultimate decision. If we hold school and you are concerned with your youngster traveling safely, by all means, keep him/her home.

Any delayed start, cancellation, or early release will be communicated as early as possible in the following manner:

- Email and phone call through our school communication system
- District Website: www.sacoschools.org
- District Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SacoSchoolDept/>
- TV Stations: [WCSH 6](#), [WMTW 8](#), [WGME 13](#) - Please sign up for alerts

Please review the following regarding delayed start, cancelation, and early release:

1. **Two (2)-Hour Delayed Start:** This option will be used when travel is expected to improve during the morning commute and will allow public works additional time to clear roads, sidewalks, and parking lots. If the 2-hour delay procedure is used, parents should plan on bus transportation picking students up approximately 2 hours after their regular pick-up time. Below are the individual school start times in the event of a delay. End times will remain the same.

NOTE: In the event that a late start falls on a Wednesday, we will follow the 2-hour delay schedule, and students will remain in school and be released at the regular ending time.

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|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • PK - 10:00 AM | • Young - 10:00 AM |
| • PK AM - No School | • Fairfield & CK Burns - 9:45 AM |
| • PK PM - 11:30 AM | • Saco Middle School - 10:45 AM |

2. **Early Dismissal:** With careful planning and the student's welfare in mind, we will make every attempt not to dismiss school early as it provides little or no time for families to provide alternative care for their children. As the weather can be unpredictable, there may be exceptions where the weather will warrant early dismissal.
3. **Full Snow Day:** This option will be used to allow students and families to enjoy the Maine winter, and school work will not be assigned. This day will only be added at the end of the current school calendar if needed.

Please ensure that your contact information is up to date so that snow day calls reach you. Without this information, we will not be able to contact you during school closings and emergencies. I sincerely hope this clarifies any questions you may have regarding the process for canceling school due to inclement/hazardous weather.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Ray".

Jeremy Ray, Superintendent