



# Denville Township Schools

400 Morris Ave, Suite 279, Denville, New Jersey 07834

Mr. Steven A. Forte, Superintendent

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## Emergency Closing Days Information and FAQ's

### ***Who makes the decision to close, delay the opening or dismiss early?***

The Superintendent makes the final call to close or adjust the day

### ***What goes into the decision making process?***

Beginning the day before a storm, the Superintendent discusses the options with: the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, Police Department, Supervisor of Student Transportation, Township DPW Director and Superintendents from surrounding districts. We consult two local weather subscriptions and then plan for the next day. When the decision is made in the morning the process starts over again at 4:30 AM. We try to make the call by 6:00 AM or earlier.

### ***What factors go into determining a delay or closure?***

The time the storm hits and the duration are important considerations as well as the type of precipitation- for example- will there be ice? Road conditions at the time and road conditions at drop off and pick up are considered. Sometimes we will call for a delay to buy more time and then close if the conditions worsen. If this is the case we will inform the public.

### ***How will I find out about the decision?***

We utilize several methods of communication.

- Messages posted on:
  - [www.denville.org](http://www.denville.org)
  - Fios 1
  - News 12 NJ
- Automated phone call and text message through School Messenger
- Email

***If you are not receiving the messages please contact [parentportal@denville.org](mailto:parentportal@denville.org)***

As you can see we rely heavily on information that is not exact (weather forecasting) but we can assure you that the safety of the students and staff is the primary concern. As a rule, and barring unforeseen emergency circumstances we will not call for an early dismissal unless we give parents notice prior to the start of school. Once the students are in the buildings we will keep them the full day. (Unless there is a real emergency)

As always please contact me with your suggestions and/or comments. [sforte@denville.org](mailto:sforte@denville.org)

## Delayed Opening/Early Dismissal Schedules

- **Late Buses** – During winter months, traffic and icy road conditions may delay school buses on their routes. While students may have to wait at a bus stop for several minutes, they should be instructed to return home or go to a designated neighbor’s house if the bus has not arrived in a half-hour. If your child returns home and you have not heard an emergency announcement, call Transportation at **(973-983-6530 Ext. 2427)** or email [transportation@denville.org](mailto:transportation@denville.org)
- **Two Hour Delayed Opening** – When early morning road conditions are severe enough to warrant a delayed school opening, each child’s bus pickup time and school starting time is delayed two hours from the regular schedule for the respective school. **Students should report to bus stops two hours later than their regular schedule. It is possible buses could even be later due to road conditions.**

### Two –Hour Delay Schedule

<u>Lakeview School</u>	Grades K -5	10:05-2:58
<u>Riverview School</u>	Grades K-5	10:40-3:33
<u>Valleyview School</u>	Grades 6-8	9:30-2:23

- **Early Closing** – Should it become necessary to close school before the regular dismissal time, when school is already in session, every effort will be made to have the announcement made by 10:45 a.m. The district will initiate the School Messenger System.

Parents are urged to make arrangements if they are not available during the day. **Please make sure that the school office has the correct phone number, address, and bus stop for your emergency contact person.** It would also be helpful for you to discuss an emergency plan with your child for early dismissal days.

### Emergency Early Dismissal (SNOW OR OTHER EMERGENCY)

<u>Lakeview School</u>	Grades K -5	8:05-12:05
<u>Riverview School</u>	Grades K-5	8:40-12:40
<u>Valleyview School</u>	Grades 6-8	7:30-11:30

- **In Case of an Evacuation** – Do not go to the school. Your child will be sent home on the bus.