



BETHEL PARK

SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 22, 2021

Dear Bethel Park School District Families,

Re: Winter Weather Plans

As we enter the holiday break, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a restful and joyous holiday season. This has not been an easy year for anyone, and I wanted to express just how grateful I am for your continued partnership and your unwavering support of our students and staff during such an otherwise challenging time.

Soon, the harsh winter weather will once again be upon us. The safety of our students and staff is always our highest priority when making decisions to delay or close school. Still, we also understand how critical it is to have the opportunity to plan ahead if we make a change to school operations due to unsafe travel conditions.

It has become abundantly clear that the pandemic has significantly impacted student learning and the ways schools can deliver instruction. We have made significant investments in technology support for our students, teachers, and staff. These investments have provided the means for instruction and work remotely, even when our buildings may not be available for in-person learning.

We also understand that generations of students have greeted snow days with joy and a renewed wonder for all the season may bring. Snow days also serve as another reminder that childhood can be fleeting, and those lasting memories can sometimes be made outside the classroom. We will try our best to honor that tradition. That said, if hazardous conditions force us to close schools, we may elect to offer remote instruction.

We will make decisions about delays and closings as quickly as possible so that families can make the necessary arrangements for the day. Communications from the District will follow as rapidly as we can following the decision via text, email, and social media. We also post delays and closings to our website and share the information with the three major local television stations. This is also an excellent time of year to confirm with your child's school secretary that your contact information is accurate in our student records system, eSchoolPlus.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and cooperation as we work to make this a safe and productive winter season for all.

Warm wishes for a happy and healthy 2022!

Sincerely,

James Walsh, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Bethel Park School District