February 20, 2019

Dear District 215 Community,

Occasionally we have to make the difficult decision to close school when extreme weather puts our students' and staff members' ability to travel safely to and from school at risk, or in other adverse situations where we are unable to safely serve students due to utility or other concerns. We do not take school closure decisions lightly because we understand they create inconveniences for many families and require making up days at the end of the year.

You may have also noticed that several area schools have used a delayed-start option on certain days. These options have proven useful depending on the timing of extreme weather. The delayed start option allows for additional time for plows to clear the roads, for temperatures to rise, and additional time for staff and students to arrive safely on campus.

We have worked closely with all parties, including our bus service, to develop a two-hour delayed start for potential use in Thornton Fractional High School District 215. While we always strive to make closure or delay announcements in a timely manner, the latest a closure or delay would be announced is at 5:00 a.m. on the day of the closure or delayed-start. Notifications are sent out via phone dialer, our district website, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter, and posted at emergencyclosings.com.

Should we choose to implement a delayed start schedule, it will work as follows:

Period 0 – Cancelled
Breakfast Served – 9:45 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.
Period 1 – 10:25 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Period 2 – 11:05 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Period 3 – 11:50 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Period 4 – 12:35 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Period 5 – 1:20 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Period 6 – 2:05 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Period 7 – 2:50 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.

Students who ride buses should report to their stop two hours later than their normal pick-up time. For example, if your child is picked up normally at 7:20am, he/she should arrive at the bus stop no later than 9:20am. Students whose schedules provide for travel to or from the Center for Academics and Technology will remain at their home campuses for the entire day, reporting to TF North or TF South’s LRC (Library) during their CTE periods. Freshman Academy students and Center for Alternative Learning students will also begin their days with a two-hour delay.

Again, while we hope never to interrupt regularly scheduled classes or school days, we feel the two-hour delayed start might be a viable way to help minimize loss of instruction while respecting the safety of our students and staff. Thank you for your understanding of this new inclement weather option.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Teresa A. Lance, Superintendent

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