

NOVEMBER 15, 2024



Dear CPU Families, Staff, and Community Members:

As we venture closer to winter, I'd like to revisit our process for weather-related delays or cancellations and outline CPU's communication framework for these events. Around this time last year, I sent out a similar message, so let me reassure you—talking about snow doesn't jinx us! If mentioning storms actually summoned them, trust me, I'd be making them disappear instead. With potential winter weather approaching, I believe this is the best time to share our plans.

First, thank you for your understanding and cooperation during inclement weather. The safety of our students is our top priority, and I want to assure you that parents always have the choice to keep their child home and this will **not** affect their attendance record. The same applies to staff: getting to school safely should always be the top priority.

In CPU, we encounter various weather challenges, from fog advisories to winter storms and extreme cold. Decisions to delay or cancel school are made with great care, considering many factors to ensure everyone's safety including:

- Monitoring weather forecasts from reliable sources, including local meteorologists, the National Weather Service, and the Iowa Department of Transportation.
- Paying special attention to predicted snowfall, wind chill, road conditions, and overall safety concerns
- Collaborate and communicate with area superintendents and districts.

Once we assess the weather conditions, we will either delay or cancel school. A **delay** allows our Directors of Transportation, Maintenance, and Custodial Services to prepare for a safe school day. However, if conditions worsen, a delay may become a **cancellation**, which is final once announced.


We understand that these decisions can significantly impact families, so we strive to communicate as early as possible. For early morning decisions, **we aim** to notify parents and staff **by 6:00 AM**, with **the latest notification by 6:15 AM**.

We will provide updates through the following channels, in this order:

1. **Email and Text Notifications:** Infinite Campus Messenger will send messages to parents, guardians, and staff.
2. **Local Media Outlets:** Information will be shared with KCRG, KGAN, and KWWL.
3. **CPU's Social Media Accounts:** Updates will also be posted on our Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) pages.

For more details about our weather-related policies, including school schedules and our hard surface plan, please visit the **Weather Closings & Delays** page our website by **clicking the below image/link**. If you have a **question** about a **specific school**, please reach out to **that building**.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and schools.

Regards,

John W. Elkin, Superintendent



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