

Transportation Delays

Parents, students, and staff have available the latest information about Waterford School District transportation delays via a customized software program. Comcast Channel 22, the District's educational cable channel shared with Waterford Township, as well as the district website will display messages when a bus is delayed 20 minutes or more due to traffic, inclement weather or mechanical difficulties. The message will contain the bus number, route number, and building name. Residents in the community may view Channel 22 only if they have cable television.

Parents should have a transportation contingency plan in place so students know what to do in the event of delay.

THERE ARE NO BUS DELAYS AT THIS TIME.

On rare occasions when mechanical failures occur in a school building or when inclement weather develops after school is in session for the day, it may become necessary to dismiss school early. While this is not likely to occur, the following procedures are outlined for your information.

1. School Procedures

- Local radio stations WPON, WJR and CKLW will be notified of school closings. However, this method of communicating is not completely reliable since these messages are announced at the station's discretion.
- In the elementary school grades each school operates a telephone fan-out system. Building administrator will activate their school's system when they are notified there has been a change in the normal dismissal time.
- The order of dismissal is: senior high, middle and elementary schools.

2. Bus Transportation May Be Interrupted Because of Hazardous Highway Conditions

It is the policy of the Waterford School District not to operate its buses when weather conditions cause hazardous travel for bus riders. The decision whether buses will run when severe weather conditions are eminent is made by the Superintendent after consulting with public safety and school district transportation officials. The procedures followed to determine whether or not buses will run is as follows:

- A. A call is made to the Waterford Police Department for its appraisal of road conditions.
- B. Two or more school officials will personally inspect the various types of roads on which buses travel in the district. They will then meet at the bus garage where all available information is considered before the decision is made to run all buses as usual or cancel all buses.
- C. When weather conditions in your immediate area make your child's trip too hazardous, then it is your discretion whether to keep your child at home. The Waterford School District covers an area of approximately forty-two square miles, and weather and traffic conditions can vary significantly in these large areas.

3. Mechanical Breakdown or a Traffic Conditions May Cause an Interruption of Service to Children on an Individual Bus Run

Instruct your child to wait only a reasonable time for his/her bus (approximately 20 minutes) and then return home.

4. Suggested Parent Procedures

All parents must understand that telephone fan-out systems operated by parent volunteers in each elementary schools can breakdown (i.e., persons on the list not at home, busy telephone circuits, incorrect telephone numbers, etc.), therefore, it is impossible for authorities to assure all parents that they will be notified of an early dismissal. It is imperative that parents discuss the possibility of early dismissal thoroughly with their children and make certain they know where to go when parents are not at home.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT REGARDING DELAYS. PHONE SERVICE MUST BE KEPT FREE TO HANDLE EMERGENCY CALLS DEALING WITH THE OPERATION OF THE BUS FLEET.