

SCHOOL UNION 76

BROOKLIN – DEER ISLE-STONINGTON CSD – SEDGWICK

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Office of the Superintendent

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“It takes a whole community to educate a child.”

Superintendent’s Memo

To: Union 76 Parents & Guardians
From: Christian M. Elkington
Re: Storm Closing Procedures
Date: 12-5-17

As we move into the winter storm season I wanted to make sure there was clarity around the process used to close, delay or end school early. Determining what is the best course of action is never easy with the weather. Complaints and/or assumptions can sometimes be made and unfortunately add to the lack of trust seen in today’s society. Please know that a lot of time and effort goes into these decisions each time there is a chance for bad weather as safety is #1.

The following is the School Cancellation-Delay Process being used for 17-18:

- Night before I review forecasts from National Weather Service
 - At 4:00 AM I recheck forecasts
 - At 4:15 AM Hancock County Superintendents start discussing weather concerns and possible next steps
 - 4:30 – 5:00 AM I call and/or try and reach Road Commissioners-Supervisors in each town and Brown’s Bussing
 - If my home has lost power internet service I leave and drive to find power and service
 - Between 5:15 - 5:30 AM I try to make a decision as to one of four choices:
 - o School will go as scheduled
 - o 1 hr. Delay
 - o 2 hr. Delay
 - o No school
 - By 5:30 AM I email/ call:
 - o Brown’s Bussing
 - o Principals
 - o Staff at whichever district has a change
 - *5:30 - 5:45 AM I email parents/guardians. Put it on the following television news sites:
 - o WMTW-TV8
 - o WLBZ2-TV 2
 - o WABI-TV 5
- *Area radio stations go to the TV sites to find lists of closings.

If weather looks bad for the afternoon we start following similar procedures to the above at 10:30 am in regards to cancelling afternoon activities and/or closing school early.

I appreciate your understanding with this process. Let’s hope we don’t have to use the above too often during the upcoming winter!!!