

## **YOUR CHILD'S WORLD INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION**

### **HOW IS THE DECISION MADE?**

The decision to open or close our school in bad weather is based on careful analysis of all relevant factors, such as:

Information on road conditions from transportation staff and other officials. We must give careful consideration to the most dangerous roads in the City. Even if your street looks clear, travel elsewhere in the City may be dangerous. Also, we must consider the safe travel of all students and staff.

Amount of snow and ice accumulated

Precipitation timeframe

Building conditions, such as whether we have electricity and heat

Parking lot and sidewalk conditions

Weather predictions. We prefer not making decisions based on weather predictions, which are not always accurate. Sometimes this is unavoidable.

What other school districts are doing. We also share information with other local districts and check whether they are opening or closing.

### **WHO MAKES THE DECISION?**

The School District of Philadelphia makes the final decision for all Head Start and Pre-K Counts programs, based on the above factors and recommendations from the Director of Support Services and Supervisor of Transportation with collaboration from Township officials.

YCW Administration makes the final decision for all Toddler, Wrap Around and School Age programs, based on the above factors and recommendations from the Local Weather Authority.

### **HOW ARE PARENTS NOTIFIED?**

Text alert (SIGN UP FOR YOUR CENTER'S TEXT ALERTS – CONTACT YOUR CENTER'S DIRECTOR)

News alert stating the all School District of Philadelphia Public School are closed (Head Start and Pre-K Counts)

All Toddler, Wrap Around, and School Age Care please check your text alert and our main phone number 215-924-4175

Recorded notification message on school main phone number (215-924-4175)

School District of Philadelphia Website (Head Start and Pre-K Counts)

Local News programs "All Philadelphia Schools are Closed" (Head Start and Pre-K Counts)

### **WHEN IS THE DECISION MADE?**

The decision is normally made as soon as possible, so we can notify parents and staff effectively. Every effort is made to announce a closing as quickly as possible. The most difficult decisions to make are those when sleet or freezing rain occur after children and staff have already left for their morning routes.

### **DELAYED ARRIVAL**

We will sometimes utilize a delayed arrival to allow additional time for road crews to complete their work and to give additional time for staff and children to arrive to the center safely.

### **EARLY DISMISSAL**

Please consider making contingency plans with neighbors, friends or relatives, to assure that your child has a quick and safe departure for emergency early dismissals, or school closings.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER AND OUR TODDLER, WRAP AROUND AND/OR SCHOOL AGE CARE**

If Head Start and Pre-K Counts is closed for the day: Toddler, Wrap Around and/or School Age Care may open. Please look for a text alert and/or check our school main number for a recorded message for updated information.

If we utilizes a delayed arrival: Our centers will open late. Please look for a text alert and/or check our school main number for a recorded message for updated information.

If we close early due to inclement weather: Toddler, Wrap Around and/or School Age Care is closed. Please look for a text alert and/or check our school main number (215-924-4175) for a recorded message for updated information. Ensure that your school age child is picked up safely from school.

If the roads are unsafe for our transportation team to travel, transportation to and from school may be canceled even if our center is open for care.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER CHALLENGES**

Although we do our absolute best in this process, inclement weather poses many challenges. If you do not feel as though it is safe for your child to attend school because of the inclement weather, use your best judgment.

We hope this communication is helpful in understanding the process our school uses to make the best possible decision for the safety of all during times of inclement weather. For questions or comments about our inclement weather procedures and notification system please contact your center's director.

