



LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

124 Willow Drive, Little Silver, NJ 07739

Dr. Carolyn M. Kossack
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents,

During my tenure as Superintendent in this district, there has been only one occasion in eleven years that I was forced to make a decision regarding an early dismissal that was ***not planned for*** due to inclement weather. Making the decision to close early when it has not been planned for comes with layers of problems, particularly for working parents who have not planned for an early pick-up.

I am admittedly concerned about tomorrow's weather. The various weather forecasts show different outcomes. One outcome is suggesting that some light snow or rain will likely develop tonight and early tomorrow, but the main effects of the storm will be from late tomorrow morning through tomorrow evening. That timing for an elementary district is about as bad as it gets. For areas away from the coast, snow will become steadier and heavier in the late morning. I must consider our staff members as well as our parents, as not all staff members live along the coast. This prediction suggests that along the coast rain will change to snow in the early to mid-afternoon. Snow will continue into tomorrow evening making travel conditions difficult, particularly during the evening rush hour. Accumulations of 3 to 6 inches along the coast and 6 to 12 inches inland are possible before the snow tapers off by midnight tomorrow night.

The second prediction is more favorable. The second prediction suggestions that in our area, we will primarily experience a rainmaker with mixed precipitation starting in this area around 1:00 PM.

I wish I had a crystal ball and knew what to expect. I realize that calling for a delayed opening in advance may result in a hardship to some parents. It may result in a total rainmaker and be for naught. If however, I don't plan for a contingency, then I could be faced with calling for an early dismissal during the day tomorrow.

I am respectfully asking that parents plan for the possibility of an early dismissal tomorrow. While I do not want to make a premature decision, and I feel like I must wait for tomorrow to see if we are faced with snow or rain, I want parents to have a plan should I need to make that decision once school is in session tomorrow.

Thank you for your understanding. Just to be clear, I am not anticipating making any decision prior to the opening of school tomorrow, as all-weather forecasts are currently predicting that school will be in session before the possibility of snow starts. We are working with the YMCA regarding Aftercare provisions. A Code Red will be sent later today.

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Kossack
Superintendent of Schools