



**An important message
From Pineland's Executive Director**
About weather-related/emergency delays and closures

Dear Staff:

Winter weather emergencies impact all of us! While PINELAND is the best place for our students to be each day, everyone's safety is our top priority. Help us to be prepared for inclement weather and other emergencies by reviewing the information below.

WHAT FACTORS ARE CONSIDERED?

Conditions can vary greatly by geography. Students and staff travel from all parts of South Jersey, so the decision to close school or have a delayed opening can be complicated. Here is what school leadership considers when inclement weather or an emergency develops:

- Road conditions
- Accumulation of snow/ice over multiple counties
- Weather forecasting reports
- Building and grounds
 - Safety/preparedness of walkways and parking lots
 - Operations like power/electricity, heat, and water
- Sending school district and county decisions
- Transportation company decisions

WHO MAKES THE DECISION?

I make the final decision, with critical input from school leadership, maintenance, kitchen and technology departments.

HOW ARE STAFF NOTIFIED?

You'll receive a text message and/or an email from our school messaging system. Tune to local TV and radio stations (KYW News Radio, CBS Philly, or 6 ABC) for up-to-date information on school closings. Our school's closing number is **949**. Or check our district website at www.pinelandschool.org. **Please do not call the school phone number to seek school closure or delay information.**

WHEN IS THE DECISION MADE?

We try very hard to make our decision by 5:00 a.m. or earlier.

WHEN WILL WE MAKE UP DAYS IF SCHOOL IS CLOSED?

Make up school days may be added on: January 13, February 17, March 13, June 19-23 and June 26-30.

WHAT IF CONDITIONS WORSEN DURING THE SCHOOL DAY?

When a sending school district or transportation company decides to close early, we dismiss their students to accommodate their transportation needs.

Although we do our absolute best in this process, we know that often no perfect decision exists.

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding, Pineland Family!

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Graham, Executive Director