

EMERGENCY CLOSURES

Dear Parents,

This is a reminder of our school policy regarding weather and other emergencies requiring unexpected closure of one or all of our sites. One of our main concerns during bad weather is the safety of our children and staff.

Please be assured that we will not close the school more than is absolutely necessary. Our decisions must be based on the weather forecasts and what is happening outdoors. If the number of days closed during the school year is excessive (more than 5), we will add school days to the calendar.



On those days when severe weather is predicted, please check our website (www.alcottschool.org), turn on the radio to WFAS (1230-AM, 103.9FM or 106.3 FM) or WHUD (100.7FM), tune into Cablevision Channel 12 News for school delays or closing announcements. You may also call your child's Alcott site and listen to the message on the voice mail. Listen carefully to the radio or television. All of our sites may not have the same information or schedules.

If you haven't heard the radio announcement and you have any doubts about whether or not school is opening, please call one of our locations. There is an answering machine at all sites and we record any delayed opening/closing information on the machines. If you are unable to get through, you may also contact the following people:

Beth Farkas (all sites) - (845) 942-2497(before 7AM)

Dimitra Dreyer (Dobbs Ferry) - 231-5877 (before 7:30AM)

Monica Zenda (special education programs) - (845)638-9040 (before 6:15AM)

If we are already in school and the weather gets very bad or the power goes out, we will contact you about closing early. Please be sure that your emergency form is updated and in the office so that we can reach the person you have designated to pick up your child. If you feel that conditions are getting dangerous, please feel free to come and get your child early. Remember, the staff cannot leave until the last child is picked up.

For safety reasons, the bus companies do not like to operate in severe weather conditions. If the weather is severe, they may pick up the children early and take them home. Keep in mind that it usually takes 2 or 3 times the amount of time to deliver the children home in

(over)

bad weather. Before we send children out early, we must be sure someone will be at home for them. Again, please be sure your emergency contact forms are updated and in the office,

especially if any of the following have occurred recently:

1. Have you changed jobs recently?
2. Do we have your correct work telephone number, beeper and/or cell number?
3. Do you have a plan for emergency child care arrangements if we close school early? Do we have the phone numbers for those people?

If you have any questions regarding emergency closings, please feel free to stop by the office and speak with our staff.

Sincerely,
Beth
Beth A. Farkas
Executive Director

REMEMBER - closing information can be heard on WFAS (1230AM, 103.9 FM, 106.3 FM or www.WFASFM.com); or WHUD (100.7 FM) or www.WHUD.com ; or Cablevision Channel 12 News; or found at our website: www.alcottschool.org