

Dear Parents,

You are receiving this message, as your child/children ride the bus. As we head into the next few months of school, we will most likely encounter some weather conditions, which may affect school. If you would take a moment to read the information below in this message that would be appreciated. I would also add in addition to the information provided below, we will continue to communicate with you about any other specific changes we will make during inclement weather regarding your child's bus route or pick-up. Lori Rust does an outstanding job communicating with our parents and bus drivers.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and collaboration in making this all work for the safety of the children.

Please don't hesitate to contact Lori Rust (605-665-4823 or lori.rust@k12.sd.us) with any busing questions specific to inclement weather/roads. If you have any other school related questions, please contact your child's school directly.

Happy New Year!

Dr. Wayne Kindle, Superintendent

Yankton School District

Early Release & School Buses Returning to School

If inclement weather conditions are in the "forecast" impacting travel/road conditions the YSD may consider an Early Release.

We also know once an Early Release has been announced that the weather conditions can change very quickly with little regard to the "forecast". I trust our bus drivers and their judgement regarding visibility/road conditions. They may choose to return to town at any time during their bus route with children to ensure their safety.

The decision may also be made to return all buses to town or not send any buses out if the weather and travel conditions change quicker than the "forecast" predicted. If either of these situations should occur, we will communicate with parents.

If your child rides the bus, please make sure you have a plan in place for a family member or close friend to pick your child up from school if our buses are restricted from travel. We will work with you to keep the children safe at school until they are able to be picked up.

We appreciate your understanding and working together for the safety of our children. I will always do my best to keep our children safe.

Parents of any student who wish to pick their child up early on an inclement weather day or who choose not to have their child attend school with inclement weather pending/road conditions are welcome to do so.

2-Hour Late Start

We may use a 2-Hour Late Start when weather and road conditions interfere with a normal starting time. Weather conditions and road conditions can change very quickly. Utilizing a 2-Hour Late Start provides us additional time along with some day light to further analyze the situation. A decision may also include the closure of school for the day.

The extra time also provides more of a window for the County, City and State to have sanding trucks, plows, etc. taking care of roads in more areas. This also allows the school district some additional time to work on the many parking lots, sidewalks, etc. for our students, parents and staff.

A 2-Hour Late Start is much easier to adjust pick-up times in town or out of town by simply adding 2 hours onto our normal bus pick-up times.

Note: Please remember the conditions in the rural areas may be much worse than in town, which can impact decision making for a **2-Hour Late Start**, an **Early Release** and a **School Bus Returning to School**.

Bus Parents: Please use the *Here Comes the Bus* app. to track your bus' location, especially during inclement weather and late start days.

There is also the decision to start school on time and/or not to have an early release. We all know living in South Dakota there will be some weather and road conditions, which require drivers to slow down, be cautious and know it may take a little longer to get to and from our destination safely.