

Rochester CUSD #3A

Winter Weather Guide

What You Need to Know and When



Winter is no longer coming; it's here! For central Illinois this means extreme cold, snow, and ice. Now is the time to know how and when Rochester CUSD #3A makes decisions about school closures. Plus, we want you to know **where** you can find the information.

Where can you find school closure information?

ParentSquare, E-Mail, SMS, Telephone Calls, Push Notifications:

The district will share school closures via ParentSquare, e-mail, text messages, and telephone calls. You can also receive push notifications right to your phone with ParentSquare.

We encourage you to double-check your contact information in Skyward. This will ensure you receive messages from district leaders instantly after they send them out.

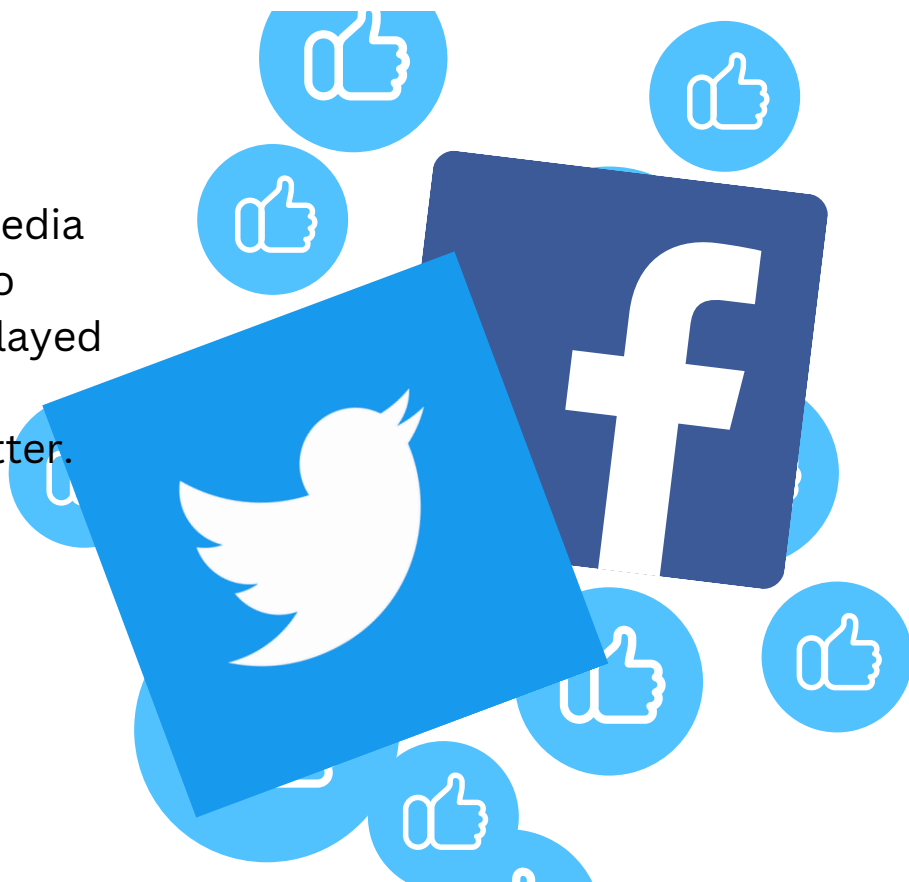
Social Media:

The district utilizes social media outlets to get information to families. Any closures or delayed starts will be posted on the district's Facebook and Twitter.

Follow us at:

Facebook

X(previously called Twitter)



News Media:

Each school district shares closure information and announcements with local news outlets, including television, radio, and newspaper outlets.

News Channel 20

WAND TV

WCIA

Fox Illinois

Capitol Radio Group

Mid-West Family Broadcasting

Miller Media Group

State Journal-Register





When are school closure announcements made?

Our top priority is always the safety of our students and staff. When severe weather is possible, district officials begin monitoring forecasts several days in advance. We work closely with local first responders, road commissioners, and weather experts to stay informed with the most up-to-date information.

Whenever possible, we make every effort to announce school closures the **night before** so families can plan ahead and arrange for child care if needed.

If the National Weather Service forecasts a winter weather warning in Sangamon County, school cancellations will be shared the night before by 9 pm. If cancellations occur the morning of school days, parents will be notified no later than 5:30 am via ParentSquare.

Please note that announcements are only made when schools are closed. If no message is sent, school will be in session as normal.

Can school be closed if it's extremely cold but doesn't snow?

Yes, schools can be closed even when there is no snow and/or ice. While there are several reasons schools can be closed when there is no snow or ice on the ground, extreme cold is the most common. When temperatures reach -22 degrees with or without wind chill, school will be canceled.



Do schools require remote learning when schools are closed?

At Rochester Schools, our goal is to maximize our in-person learning to the greatest extent possible including during emergency days. Rochester Schools currently **DO NOT** require or offer remote learning during school closures.

Each school district has 5 emergency days. When a district uses an emergency day, it is made up at the end of the year as reflected on our school calendar.

The district avoids remote learning days because of several factors like internet connectivity, human resources, food service, and child care to name a few.