

Marble Falls ISD Bad Weather Procedures

Bad Weather Procedures: What Parents Should Know

Marble Falls Independent School District officials take into consideration several factors before a decision is made to delay school, dismiss school early, or cancel school during periods of inclement weather. These primary factors include:

- student and staff safety,
- parents' need to adjust schedules,
- district resources to support operations (such as electricity, heat, etc.),
- and the ability for transportation to access district roads and safely transport students.

Delays, Cancellations and Early Releases – How Decisions are Made

The following steps are taken when inclement weather occurs during the overnight/early morning hours and threatens the start of school:

1. Superintendent of Schools will have consultation with emergency management officials, law enforcement officials, and officials with neighboring school districts.
2. Superintendent of School will review reports by meteorologists at the National Weather Service (via National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration--NOAA) and other local meteorologists on anticipated weather events, including the predicted timing and amount of rain, sleet, or snow impacting the district and surrounding counties for students, their families, and staff, many of whom commute far distances.
3. The District's Director of Transportation will determine the driving conditions of roadways within the District as early as 3 a.m. to determine accessibility. The driving condition information is then shared with the Superintendent of Schools.
4. The Superintendent of Schools will then make a decision as early as possible of the day in question whether or not to delay or cancel school. When conditions warrant, the decision to delay or cancel school will be made the evening before the next school day. Please note, announcements will not be made when schools will maintain their regularly scheduled hours.
5. If students are already present in school and weather conditions worsen during the day, a decision for early release will be considered.

The Communication Process – What Happens Next

When a decision is made to delay school, dismiss school early or cancel school, the District will notify parents using the Blackboard ParentLink parent notification system. Parents will receive a combination of automated phone messages, emails and/or text messages depending on the circumstances. Parent or guardian contact information provided at the time a new student is enrolled—or when a parent or guardian updates his/her contact information during the back-to-school returning student process each summer—will automatically be used for notifications through the Blackboard ParentLink system.

The automated phone message, email and text message notification system is just one method Marble Falls ISD uses to inform parents of changes to the instructional day caused by inclement weather. Parents are advised to also check the Marble Falls ISD website, as well as each campus

Marble Falls ISD Bad Weather Procedures

website, for detailed information. District officials will attempt to post information in English and Spanish.

Information about school delays, early dismissal or school closures will also be communicated through the following media, including but not limited to:

- Marble Falls ISD Website: <https://www.marblefallsisd.org>
- Marble Falls ISD Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MFISD/>
- Marble Falls ISD Twitter: @MarbleFallsISD
- Local newspapers: **The Highlander** and **DailyTrib.com**
- Local radio stations: **KBEY (103.9 FM)**
- Austin television stations: **KTBC (FOX-TV)**, **KVUE (ABC-TV)**, **KXAN (NBC-TV)**, **KEYE (CBS-TV)**, and **Univision**, **Telemundo**,

Delayed School Start

(Decision made by Superintendent no later than 5:00 a.m.; Communicated to stakeholders by 5:30 a.m.)

1. There will be a minimum two hour delay for all school operations. (*For example, if your bus normally picks you up at 6:44 a.m., plan to be ready for pickup at 8:44 a.m.. If the school bell begins at 7:45 a.m., then be prepared to arrive at school by 9:45 a.m.*) **Schools will dismiss at normal times.**
2. All morning activities are canceled.
3. If weather and road conditions prevent safe travel, please do not jeopardize your safety.
4. Please monitor the district website, Facebook, Twitter, and the local news for updates regarding plans for the next school day. In the event it is necessary to continue a closure or implement a delayed start for the following day, you will receive a call and an email by early morning.

School Closure

(Decision made by Superintendent no later than 5:00 a.m.; Communicated to stakeholders by 5:30 a.m.; Decision could be made after an initial Delayed School Start)

1. The school district is closed
2. All activities are canceled unless otherwise communicated to participants
3. Please monitor the district website, Facebook, Twitter, and the local news for updates regarding plans for the next school day. In the event it is necessary to continue a closure or implement a delayed start for the following day, you will receive a call and an email by early morning.

Early Dismissal

(Decision made by Superintendent and communicated in line with the unfolding inclement weather causing the early dismissal)

Marble Falls ISD Bad Weather Procedures

1. Students will be dismissed in normal MFISD procedure with elementary students first and secondary students after. However, the High School Principal will work with the Superintendent of Schools on a potential release of student drivers to help those students get home safely.
2. Students may stay on campus to be picked up by parents if necessary.
3. All activities are canceled unless otherwise communicated to participants
4. Please monitor the district website, Facebook, Twitter, and the local news for updates regarding plans for the next school day. In the event it is necessary to continue a closure or implement a delayed start for the following day, you will receive a call and an email by early morning.