



TSC Weather Delays and Cancellations

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who makes the decision that TSC classes are delayed or canceled?

The Tippecanoe School Corporation superintendent has the final decision authority to delay or cancel classes. The superintendent will delay or cancel classes if the TSC Director of Transportation determines that it is unsafe for TSC busses to be on the roads. The superintendent may cancel or delay classes even if the Transportation Department determines that it is reasonable for busses to operate. On rare occasions classes must be delayed or canceled due to emergency situations not relative to weather conditions.

2. What sources are utilized in making a determination to delay or cancel school?

In addition to school administrators and transportation personnel, other local sources of information may include the Tippecanoe County Sheriff, Indiana State Police, Tippecanoe County Highway Department, Tippecanoe County Emergency Management, National Weather Service and other local weather sources.

3. How can I be notified if there is a delay or cancellation?

Families can receive instant messages via email or text from the Tippecanoe School Corporation about weather delays and cancellations through its website, tscschools.com. Click on the Parents tab at the top and look for the link to TSC Alerts & Notifications. Families need to make sure they sign up for the TSC alerts, delays and closings option.

TSC officials will post the announcement on the website and notify numerous media outlets that there has been a change to the regular school schedule. These media outlets include, but are not limited to, 105.3 FM-WKOA, 98.7 FM-WASK, WLFI-TV 18, 96.5 FM-WAZY, Journal & Courier and Indianapolis TV stations.

4. Does TSC have to make up days due to two-hour delays or cancellations?

When school is canceled, days are made up according to the corporation calendar through built-in makeup days and/or by extending the end of the scheduled school year. Two-hour delays or early dismissals continue to be waived by the Indiana Department of Education and these days will count as a full instructional day and do not have to be made up. This waiver applies to a maximum of 120 minutes per day.

In the unusual circumstance that a delayed start and an early dismissal occur on the same day, the day cannot be counted as a full instructional day to be applied toward the state required minimum of 180 required full days of instruction.

5. Are student drivers a factor in determining school delay or closing?

No. Decisions to delay or cancel are made on the basis of school bus safety considerations. Parents make the determination that their student does or does not need to ride the school bus.

6. When do decisions to delay or cancel need to take place?

A decision to delay or cancel must be made on or before 6 am in order to avoid having students in transit. While it would be convenient to always announce school delays and cancellations well in advance, the uncertainty of weather patterns often results in short notice. Occasionally weather conditions may markedly deteriorate once the school day has begun.

7. Is it possible to cancel or delay school once school buses have started to pick up students?

Yes. If weather conditions deteriorate during bus runs it may be advisable to cancel school and return students to their home.

8. Is it possible to cancel school once a delay has been announced?

Yes. Deterioration of weather conditions may require that the announced delay be amended to a cancellation. Families should always be alert to the possibility that a school delay announcement may be followed by a closure notice.

9. Does TSC ever keep students beyond normal dismissal time due to weather or other emergency conditions?

Yes. TSC may keep students at school if conditions at dismissal time dictate that it is not safe to release students except to their parents.

10. Does the fact that a neighboring school corporation has a delay or closing affect whether TSC has a delay or closing?

No. Decisions impacting TSC students are based upon factors in the TSC. These factors may or may not be the same as those impacting other school districts. TSC borders 12 other public school corporations. Each of these districts has its own unique circumstances to consider during adverse weather conditions. For example, Lafayette School Corporation (LSC) may need to announce a two-hour delay because sidewalks are blocked from snow plowing (many LSC students walk to school). Such a complication may not be as significant in a district such as TSC where most students are transported by bus.

11. Are student drivers (or passengers) excused if they miss school time due to weather conditions or other emergencies encountered while driving to school?

No. Students must ride the school bus in order to be exempt from penalties due to delays encountered while in transit to school.

12. Does TSC make closing or delay decisions based on weather forecast predictions?

Weather forecasts are one variable used in making school delay or closing decisions. Actual weather conditions are more persuasive. Weather prediction is far from an exact science. Some predictions leave little room for doubt. More often, weather forecasts are predicated on variable data which may not support an advance decision to delay or close.

13. What happens to scheduled school activities on delay or cancellations days?

On weather delay days, activities scheduled before school will be canceled or postponed. Child care program services at the elementary schools may remain open at the discretion of the principal and the providing agency. After-school activities will proceed as scheduled.

On weather closing days, all elementary and middle school activities will be canceled or postponed. High school activities will be canceled or postponed with several exceptions per TSC policy. Contact high school athletic departments for details.

14. Does TSC do eLearning Days when classes are cancelled?

eLearning is not utilized by the TSC in the context described by the Indiana Department of Education for school closings.

15. Why doesn't TSC utilize eLearning days when school is cancelled?

The TSC places high priority on the quality of instruction we provide to all of our students and the manner in which it's delivered. While eLearning is one of many instructional strategies incorporated in classrooms throughout the TSC, we value face-to-face interaction and the relationships established between our students and teachers.

16. What if I can't get my child safely to a bus stop?

The school district recognizes that there may be weather situations which prevent individual families from being able to get their students to the school bus stop with a reasonable degree of safety. Parents should advise the principal within the usual reporting period if their student has been prevented from attending school due to being unable to travel with reasonable safety to the school bus stop.