



## Hartford Area Schools & Districts Emergency School Closing Procedures

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November 8, 2023

Dear HJT1 Families:

The winter season will soon be upon us, and as School and District Leaders, we understand that our decision to keep open or to close a school in bad weather has a significant effect on families. We also believe that you know what is best for your child. If you believe they would be safer at home and should not attend school in poor weather conditions, please check with the individual school for recommended options. Also, if you are uncomfortable with the weather conditions throughout an unfavorable weather day, we would encourage you to act upon that belief. Communicate with your school's principal, and make the necessary arrangements to pick up your child.

Please be advised that the following information is considered to open or close school due to inclement weather:

- Information from city, county, and state officials focused on road conditions and short and long-term weather forecasts
- Information from our bus transportation companies, including their recommendations, focused on road safety for buses
- Discussion with our supervisors of buildings and grounds to ensure that parking lots can be open for parking before and after the school day

In addition, the Hartford Area Administrators and principals work collaboratively to open or close a school in bad weather. We consider the information from the above paragraph and the following factors:

- Temperature, including wind chill factor
- Wind velocity impacting the blowing and drifting of snow
- Buses running routes at a slower pace and having an impact on how long students wait at bus stops
- Parents/guardians driving their children to school in poor driving conditions, and high school students with little or no experience in poor road conditions driving to school
- The number of inches of existing and projected snowfall

Please note that Hartford Area Schools typically will not implement late starts or early dismissals due to inclement weather. For a variety of reasons, including travel where students are still impacted by less than ideal road conditions, the shared bus routes across the district, and the impact it has on student and family schedules, we have not found a late start or early dismissal to be an optimal solution. An early dismissal also introduces the risk of sending young students home to empty houses. The administrators and principals believe that knowing students are inside, and are safe, warm, and learning is a better choice than unintentionally sending students home to an empty house. While there may be situations where we do consider these options, please know it is not something we normally feel is in the best interests of our students across the Hartford Area.

Besides the media listed in this letter, each public school district and private school may use additional means of communication to notify parents/guardians and students of school closings. To acquire up-to-date school closing information, please utilize the following media resources:

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- FOX 6 News: [www.fox6now.com](http://www.fox6now.com)
- WISN TV 12: [www.wisn.com](http://www.wisn.com)
- WTMJ TV 4: [www.tmj4.com](http://www.tmj4.com)
- WTMJ 620 AM: [www.wtmj.com](http://www.wtmj.com)
- WTKM 1540 AM/104.9 FM: [www.wtkm.com](http://www.wtkm.com)

Sincerely,

*Joannie Kalina*  
**District Administrator**  
 Erin School District  
[www.erinschool.org](http://www.erinschool.org)

*Ben Washburn*  
**Principal**  
 Peace Lutheran School  
[www.peacehartford.org](http://www.peacehartford.org)

*Jeffrey A. Walters*  
**Superintendent**  
 Hartford Union High School  
[www.huhs.org](http://www.huhs.org)

*Tara Villalobos, PhD*  
**District Administrator**  
 School District of Hartford Jt. 1  
[www.hjt1.org](http://www.hjt1.org)

*Tim Onsager, EdD*  
**District Administrator**  
 Holy Hill Area School District  
[www.hhasd.org](http://www.hhasd.org)

*Kimberly Lestina*  
**Principal**  
 St. Gabriel Catholic School  
[www.sgabriel.org](http://www.sgabriel.org)

*Anthony Brazouski, PhD*  
**District Administrator**  
 HNR School District  
[www.hnrschools.org](http://www.hnrschools.org)

*Jen Trimberger*  
**Principal**  
 St. Kilian School  
[www.stkilliancong.org](http://www.stkilliancong.org)

CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

1100 Cedar Street  
 Hartford, WI 53027  
 Phone: 262-673-8040  
 FAX: 262-673-7596

LINCOLN SCHOOL

755 S. Rural Street  
 Hartford, WI 53027  
 Phone: 262-673-2100  
 FAX: 262-673-0148

ROSSMAN SCHOOL

600 Highland Avenue  
 Hartford, WI 53027  
 Phone: 262-673-3300  
 FAX: 262-673-3543

DISTRICT OFFICE

402 W. Sumner Street, Hartford, WI 53027  
 District Administrator 262-673-3155 FAX: 262-673-3548  
 Business Manager 262-673-9033 FAX: 262-673-3548  
 Pupil Services Dir. 262-673-8042 FAX: 262-673-8045