



SOMERSET PREP DC PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

3301 Wheeler Road SE, Washington, DC 20032

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January 4, 2019

Attn: Parents & Guardians
Re: Inclement Weather Procedures

Dear Somerset Families,

The seasons are changing and the cold weather is about to touch down in Washington, DC. We understand that inclement weather has a huge impact on whether or not school remains open, is delayed, or closes. However, our top priority is the safety of our scholars, faculty, and staff.

How do we make school closing decisions?

The decision to dismiss early, delay or close school is based on a careful analysis of all relevant factors, including: road conditions throughout the district and surrounding areas, the amount of snow and ice, the weather forecast, temperatures, wind chill factors and what the surrounding areas are planning for as well.

When is the decision made?

The decision is typically made by 6:00 a.m. in order to notify the media, families, and staff in a timely manner.

How are families, faculty, staff, and the public notified?

Somerset Prep DC utilizes several outlets to communicate any decision related to closing, delaying, or opening school to include the following: Robo Call, Website (<http://www.somersetprepdc.org>), NBC Channel 4, ABC Channel 7, News Channel 8, Facebook, and Instagram (@Somerset_Prep_DC).

What does a 2-hour delay mean?

In the event of a delayed opening, Somerset will open the building two-hours later than our normal entry time of 8:15 am. Scholars will be permitted to enter the building at 9:25 am for breakfast and 1st period will begin promptly at 10:00 am. All scholars will follow a modified 2-hour delay class schedule and still be dismissed at their normal time of 4:00 pm.

Middle School 2-Hour Delay Modified Schedule:

Arrival/Breakfast	9:25 am – 9:55 am
1 st Period	10:00 am – 10:40 am
2 nd Period	10:44 am – 11:26 am
Lunch	11:30 am – 12:00 pm
3 rd Period	12:05 pm – 12:45 pm
4 th Period	12:50 pm – 1:30 pm
5 th Period	1:34 pm – 2:14 pm
6 th Period	2:18 pm – 2:58 pm
7 th Period	3:01 pm – 4:00 pm

High School 2-Hour Delay Modified Schedule:

Arrival/Breakfast	9:25 am – 9:55 am
1 st Period	10:00 am – 10:40 am
2 nd Period	10:44 am – 11:26 am
3 rd Period	11:30 am – 12:10 pm
4 th Period	12:14 pm – 12:54 pm
Lunch	1:00 pm – 1:30 pm
5 th Period	1:34 pm – 2:14 pm
6 th Period	2:18 pm – 2:58 pm
7 th Period	3:01 pm – 4:00 pm

What does an early closing mean?

Every effort is made to keep scholars in school for their full day once they arrive. If conditions are severe and warrant an early closing, the information will be on our website, social media pages, and a robo call/mass email will be sent out. Please ensure the school has your most current contact information. If you have not updated your contact information please call us at (202) 562-9170.

How are weather days made up?

Our school calendar already provides 180 instructional days for our scholars. In the event that Somerset Prep is closed for more than one day due to inclement weather, the school will extend its school year one day for each day to be made up. In the event we do not need to make up instructional time due to inclement weather we will conclude our school year on June 18th, 2019, as regularly scheduled.

In conclusion, please remember that the decision to close school or delay openings due to inclement weather is based on the best information made available to us at the time the decision is made; however, we can never be sure how the weather will affect the district and surrounding areas. If you do not feel that it is safe for your child to attend school, please use your best judgment. Weather-related absences are excused absences and must follow the same procedure as regularly excused absences by contacting our LEA Data Manager/Registrar, Ms. Belinfontie, at (202) 562-9170 or via email/letter.

Thank you for your continued support!

Go Bulldogs,


Principal Catalano