



WALLENPAUPACK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

2552 Route 6
Hawley, PA 18428-7045
(570) 226-4557 ext. 3000
Fax: (570) 226-0638

Michael R. Silsby
Superintendent

Keith Gunuskey
Assistant Superintendent

Kerriann Horan
Business Administrator

Jennie Hildebrand
Board Secretary

November 28, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The decision to delay or close school is made with the safety of our students in mind. Weather conditions can vary greatly across the 320 square miles of territory our district encompasses. The district must balance the safety of our students and the need to minimize the impact on the educational process, as well as, the disruptions these decisions cause in arranging family childcare.

Decisions are made after careful consideration of road conditions, weather forecasts and temperature. Because of the size of the district and the many elevation changes conditions do vary. **If at any time you feel that the conditions are not satisfactory in your area, the decision to send your children to school is entirely up to you. Your decision will be respected and your child's absence will be excused.**

In assessing whether or not to delay school for cold weather, I rely on information provided by the National Weather Service. Typically wind-chill temperatures of negative 25 or below warrant a wind-chill warning. At this temperature exposure of uncovered skin for 30 minutes could lead to frostbite. The National Weather Service issues advisories and warnings. **Warnings** represent the potential of more extreme conditions. Delaying of school will only occur when our district is in the warning area as designated by the National Weather Service. On cold weather days please continue to encourage your children to dress accordingly. Some helpful tips from the National Weather Service are:

- Wear layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing.
- Wear a hat, 40% of your body heat can be lost from your head.
- Wear gloves to limit exposure of hands.

In closing, if at any time your children are waiting for the bus for more than 10 minutes past the regular pick up time, please contact the transportation office at 570-226-4557. I will continue to make decisions using the best information available, unfortunately, weather forecasting is not an exact science.

Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation concerning these issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael R. Silsby".

Michael R. Silsby
Superintendent