

## CLOSINGS AND CANCELLATIONS

Each year we publish a school calendar, which predicts the last day of school. Our school calendar provides for 180 days of instruction as required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The published schedule also includes five days for potential school closings due to weather or emergencies. Please note that school must remain in session until 180 days of instruction is complete or no later than June 30.

Parents are encouraged to exercise personal judgment whether to send their children to school, and this is often determined based on road conditions in a specific area within our community. Please contact your child's school if you have decided to keep your son/daughter home for the day based on road conditions in your area. In such instances, your child will be marked "excused" absent. It is important to note that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) does not recognize whether an absence is determined to be excused or unexcused, only whether the student was "absent" or "present" regardless of the reason.

Determining to cancel or delay school is a difficult decision given the unpredictability of New England weather. It changes rapidly often within hours of a forecasted weather report. Any cancellation or delay of a school day is made with input from our town safety officials, multiple sources of weather forecasts, and our transportation providers. While our goal is to remain in session, the safety of our students and staff is of our utmost concern. Every effort is made to make the call with as much notice as possible; however, there should be no expectation that any delay or cancellation will be announced before the day of school.

Notification of any school cancellation or delay is provided via the district notification system, One Call Now. It is possible that you will receive this notification via email, text and telephone message depending on the options selected by you at the time of registration. Information about cancellations or delays is posted on the district website (<http://www.nsboro.k12.ma.us>) and TV Channels 4, 5, 7, 25 and NECN. Please do not reply to the One Call Now notification or call the school offices or police stations.