



Mount Pleasant Area School District

January 9, 2024

To All MPASD Families,

Thank you to everyone for their patience with this morning's cancellation of school. The initial call was for a two-hour delay with every indication that we would be able to make it into school on the delayed schedule. I made a second drive on the roads, made it back to the office at approximately 6:45, and had intent on opening with the delay from the observed conditions. We were then overwhelmed with a burst of snow and ice in our higher elevations between 7:00-7:45 that left us no option but to close for the day. **The day will be made up on Monday, February 19, 2024 as it is listed as "Snow Day 1" on our district calendar.**

If there is a need to cancel school as we progress throughout this winter season, the next five (5) days will be Flexible Instruction Days and all students will follow the instructions they have been issued from their respective schools. I have included two previous letters for your reference from November 15, 2023 - *"Guidelines for School Delays and Cancellations"* and *"Snow Make Up Days 2023-2024"*. These letters may be helpful as a reminder for days such as today and for make-up days moving forward.

Please accept my apologies if you received the notification a bit later than usual this morning. The conditions changed quickly and brought about the necessity to change course and close for the day. Thank you once again for your patience and understanding as we navigate through these winter months.

Respectfully,

Dr. Timothy M. Gabauer
Superintendent of Schools



Mount Pleasant Area School District

November 15, 2023

Guidelines for School Delays and Cancellations

Dear Parents & Guardians:

This correspondence serves to inform you of general guidelines relative to either the delay or cancellation of school. Student safety will always be our primary concern. ***There will be days when school is in session when roads may be snow covered and the temperature is quite cold.*** It is critical on such days to ensure that your children dress appropriately for the weather and that any and all drivers exercise caution.

Every effort will be made to have the announcement for a delay prior to **5:45 a.m.** on the day of school or, at times, the prior evening. *It may be necessary at times to change from a delay to a cancellation.* In the event that such a change is necessary, every effort in that case is made to have the announcement prior to **7:45 a.m.** We encourage all families to continually check our communication sources on days that there may be a question about road conditions or extreme cold.

The Mount Pleasant Area School District uses the Thrillshare call system to communicate with families and continually updates the district website. Thrillshare messages and alerts will also be sent via email and text message for those who have downloaded the school district app. If you have not yet downloaded the app, you can do so by accessing one of the following links (Android <https://bit.ly/3phoVEu> or iPhone <https://apple.co/3LMYPFL>). These forms of contact serve for weather related or non-weather related delays, cancellations or schedule changes.

The Thrillshare call system uses phone numbers, email addresses and emergency numbers that you provide to your child's school. ***If you are not receiving messages or need to update any of your information, please be certain to contact your child's school.*** The following media outlets can also be used for notification of delays and cancellations:

MPASD Website: www.mpasd.net

Home Access Center - "Today's News"

Local TV Stations: KDKA, WTAE, WPXI

Early dismissals are rare and will only be called in the event of an emergency. ***We encourage all families to have a plan in place should it be necessary to have an unplanned early dismissal.*** On such occasions, the Thrillshare call system will be used to notify parents. Should there be a situation that requires children to be moved to another building or evacuation area, parents will likewise be notified through the call system. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Respectfully,

Timothy M. Gabauer, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

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www.mpasd.net



Mount Pleasant Area School District

November 15, 2023

Snow Make Up Days 2023-2024

Dear Parents & Guardians,

This correspondence is being sent to inform you how the 2023-2024 school year calendar is designed regarding Snow Make Up days. It is with great hope that the winter weather cooperates and the contents of this letter rarely or never has to come into play. If there are school cancellations at any point in the year, the following points explain how this year's calendar is set up to accommodate any inclement weather closures.

- If there is one (1) school closure prior to February 19, 2024 due to inclement weather, it will be treated as a traditional snow make up day. There will be NO SCHOOL and the day will be made up on February 19th.
- In the event additional days are needed due to closures after February 19th, Snow Days 2,3,4,5 and 6 will be Flexible Instructional Days (*virtual asynchronous instruction*). Information on the attendance, schedule or other such items on asynchronous instruction days will be shared from each individual school.
- The calendar also has dates set as Snow Days 7 and 8 if anything is needed beyond that point. If that were to be the case, days 7 and 8 would be traditional Snow Make Up days that would be made up around the Easter holiday on March 28th and April 1st.

This year's calendar accommodates the use of traditional Snow Make Up days as well as virtual asynchronous instructional days through the use of five (5) Flexible Instructional Days. Any of the 3 days (*February 19th, March 28th, and April 1st*) that are not used as Snow Make Ups would become days that school is not in session.

Additional guidance will be shared with families as we move through the winter months. Please compare the information contained within this letter with your 2023-2024 district calendar. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Respectfully,

Timothy M. Gabauer, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools