

## Weather Delays/Closings

Every situation is considered separately. Factors such as temperature, wind chill, daylight, road conditions, and current and future weather forecasts are considered before deciding whether to delay or close school.

### Weather Delays/Closings: Decision Process

To delay or close school is a decision made by the superintendent. Some of the key components that enter into making the decision for Rising Sun-Ohio County Schools (RSOCS) include:

- **Tracking weather data.** Multiple sources of information are used before and during the weather events (snow, ice, extreme temperatures, severe weather, etc.) when a delay or closure of school is possible. Analysis of the ongoing impact and duration of these weather events is included in the consideration of the information. Safety is the number one priority.
- **Assessing road and school parking lot and sidewalk conditions.** As early as 3:30 a.m., the superintendent drives bus routes across the county. On a typical morning, he will drive more than 60 miles of roads to assess their conditions. Around 5:00 a.m., the transportation director begins to start buses to make sure that they will run and heat up for the students and drivers.
- **Communication with other Superintendents.** Up-to-the minute local weather and road information is collected from weather apps, local news stations, Ohio County Dispatch, and the county highway department. Local superintendents begin discussing decisions about delays and closures around 5:00 a.m.
- **Synthesizing all of the information gathered.** After putting all of the information together, a decision must be made before 5:30 a.m., because that is when our first bus leaves the bus lot. Sometimes, this decision has to be made based on a forecast even if no snow or ice is on the ground. For instance, the forecast might show 1-2 inches of possible snow from 6:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m., but the storm hasn't entered the area yet.
- **Sharing.** Weather-related decisions are shared with parents/guardians and school staff as quickly as possible IF a decision is made to delay or close school. In the event that Rising Sun-Ohio County Schools must be delayed or closed due to weather conditions, notification to parents will be made first through Blackboard Connect (our all-call system) to the contact information on file in PowerSchool. (Please check

PowerSchool to make sure your information is up-to-date!) The district's social media platforms, website, and local media will also be updated.

## Weather Delays/Closings: Notification Process

Weather-related decisions are made based on the best evidence and data that exists at the time a decision needs to be made (usually no later than 5:30 a.m., but this can vary based on the variables.) As data is considered and a decision is made, safety is always our top priority.

In the event that Rising Sun-Ohio County Schools must be closed due to weather conditions, notifications to parents will be made through Blackboard Connect (our all-call system) to the contact information on file in PowerSchool.

Rising Sun-Ohio County Schools will also provide notifications on our social media channels, website, and area television and radio stations as follows:

- RSOCS Facebook – [Facebook.com/RisingSun-OhioCountySchools](https://www.facebook.com/RisingSun-OhioCountySchools)
- RSOCS Twitter – [@RisingSunSupt](https://twitter.com/RisingSunSupt)
- RSCOS Website – [www.risingsun.k12.in.us](http://www.risingsun.k12.in.us)

### Cincinnati Television

- WLWT Channel 5
- WCPO Channel 9
- WKRC Local 12
- WXIX Channel 19

### Area Radio Stations

- Eagle 99.3 FM
- Froggy 95.9 FM

## Weather Delays/Closings: Extreme Temperatures

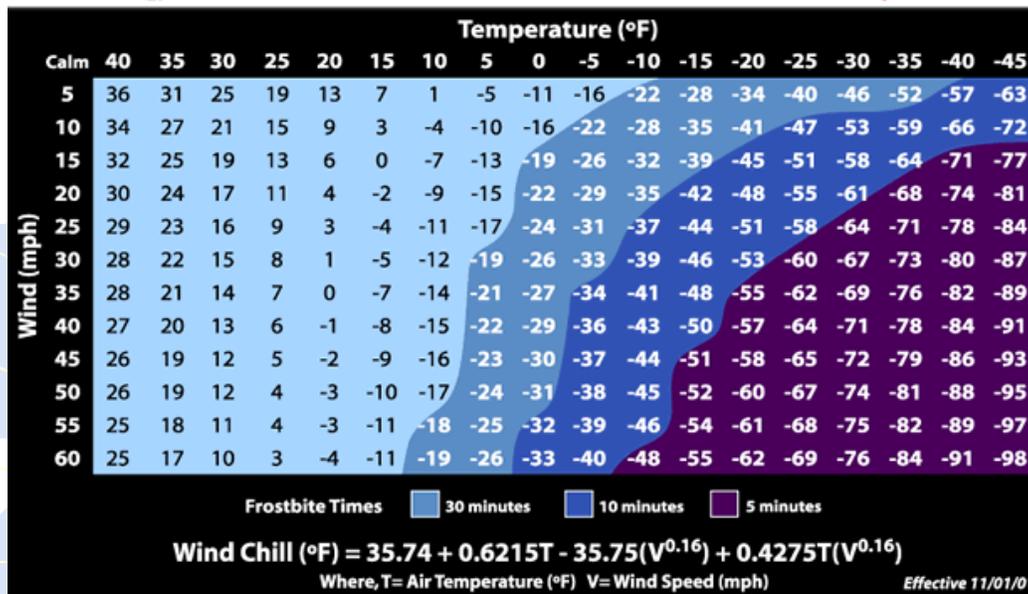
The superintendent monitors hourly temperature forecasts from a variety of weather services. The decision for a delay or closure based on temperature comes from the National Weather Service chart that shows when frostbite sets in. The NWS Wind Chill Temperature (WCT) index uses advances in science, technology, and computer modeling to provide an accurate, understandable, and useful formula for calculating the dangers from winter winds and freezing temperatures. The index does the following:

- Calculates wind speed at an average height of 5 feet, the typical height of an adult human face, based on readings from the national standard height of 33 feet, which is the typical height of an anemometer
- Is based on a human face model

- Incorporates heat transfer theory based on heat loss from the body to its surroundings, during cold and breezy/windy days
- Lowers the calm wind threshold to 3 mph
- Uses a consistent standard for skin tissue resistance
- Assumes no impact from the sun, i.e., clear night sky.



## NWS Windchill Chart



### Weather Delays/Closings: Schedules

If weather conditions require a 2-Hour Delay, all schools will start two hours later than their normal time. All buses will run their regular routes, picking up students two hours later than their normal pick-up time.

Due to losing two hours of the school day, the middle school and high school schedules will need to be modified. Below you will find the 2-Hour Delay schedules for both buildings.

#### Ohio County Middle School Delay Schedule

- 10:00-10:30 - 1<sup>st</sup> period
- 10:35-11:05 - 2<sup>nd</sup> period
- 11:10-11:40 - 3<sup>rd</sup> period
- 11:45-12:15 - 4<sup>th</sup> period
- 1:00-1:30 - 5<sup>th</sup> period
- 1:35-2:15 - 6<sup>th</sup> period
- 2:20-3:00 - 8<sup>th</sup> period

There will be no Plus Period (7<sup>th</sup> Period)

Lunches

10:30-11:10 PreK-2

11:20-11:50 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade

12:20-12:50 MS

Recesses

11:15-12:00 PreK-2<sup>nd</sup>

11:50-12:20 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade

There will be no specials between 12:20-12:55

Rising Sun High School Delay Schedule

10:00-10:30 - 1<sup>st</sup> period

10:35-11:05 - 2<sup>nd</sup> period

11:10-11:40 - 3<sup>rd</sup> period

11:45-12:15 - 4<sup>th</sup> period

12:20-1:30 5<sup>th</sup> period & lunch (Vocational student do not show until 12:45)

12:15-12:45 A lunch

1:00-1:30 B lunch

1:35-2:15 - 6<sup>th</sup> period

2:20-3:00 - 8<sup>th</sup> period

There will be no Plus Period (7<sup>th</sup> Period)

