

Belding Area Schools 2-Hour Delay Policy **Effective November 22, 2004**

When the weather requires the district administration to delay the start of school by 2 hours because of fog, snow, ice or other conditions, it is important that parents, students and staff understand what a “2-hour delay” means.

First of all, in the event of a 2-hour delay, there will be no morning Pre-K programs (ECDD, Jumpstart, Preschool). Afternoon sessions of these programs will start on schedule.

Buses will pick students up at their regular bus stop 2 hours after their normal, scheduled time. For example, if a child normally catches the bus at 6:30 a.m., pick-up will be at 8:30 a.m. on days when a 2-hour delay is called.

Likewise, school will start 2 hours after the normal start time, so high school students will begin classes at 9:25 a.m. (students should report to their second block class) and morning Heartlands will be cancelled; middle school students will begin classes at 9:30 a.m.; Ellis Elementary students will begin classes at 10:45 a.m.; and Woodview Elementary students will begin classes at 10:50 a.m.

If the start of school is delayed, breakfast will not be served, but lunch will be available as usual. Dismissal time will remain the same.

Safety remains the primary focus when the determination is made to close school or delay the start of school by 2 hours. From time to time it may be predicted that a 2-hour delay will allow morning fog to lift or roads to be cleared. If the weather has not cleared after the 2-hour delay, school will be cancelled for the day and broadcast via local media. Please remember that parents always have the right to make the final decision if they feel it is not safe to send their child(ren) during inclement weather.

It is generally district policy that once the school day has begun students are not released early. However, the secondary bus run may begin early to allow ample time for the buses to return to the district to begin the elementary bus run on time.