

Hazardous Weather and School Closures (2017–18)

Winter Is Coming: Snow Day Decisions and Notifications ***Plan ahead, sign up now for school closure alert texts***

When winter weather arrives, schools may be closed or delayed or buses may use snow routes. These decisions are made districtwide and are the same for every 4J school.

How the decision is made:

Typically, weather-related school schedule decisions are made in the early morning, before school, when current weather conditions can be assessed. We believe students and families are best served when we are open. Our main concern and the reason for any school closure is the safety of our students and staff.

How to find out if there is a change:

If the district decides to make a change to the school schedule or bus routes, it is communicated as quickly as possible in several ways, all well before 6:30 a.m. If schools and buses are on their regular schedule, there will NOT be an announcement.

- Sign up for text-message alerts — send a text to 40404 that says FOLLOW 4JWEATHER
(if you receive extra messages you don't want, reply SET DISCOVER OFF)
- Like Eugene School District 4J on our Facebook page,
[facebook.com/4Jschools](https://www.facebook.com/4Jschools)
- Check the 4J website, www.4j.lane.edu
- Tune in to local news media

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What does the announcement mean?

School Closure: There is no school for students, although some staff will be at work. The district will make a decision by noon about whether any after-school student activities or community use of buildings may take place.

Two-Hour Delay: School will start two hours late and end at the normal dismissal time for a regular school day. If it would normally have been an **early-release** day, the **early-release** schedule **will be canceled** and the schedule for delayed opening on a normal day will be followed. For **Gilham Elementary School**, the day will start at **9:55 A.M.** and end at **2:10 P.M.** Buses will drive cautiously, adjusting to conditions, so pickup and return may be delayed.

Snow Routes: At some schools, bus routes have alternate “snow routes” that may be used when snow and ice make road conditions hazardous at higher and steeper elevations. Gilham does NOT have any snow routes. More information is at www.4j.lane.edu/transportation/snowroutes.

Parent Choice: When school is in session during wintry weather, families are encouraged to consider the road conditions in their areas, make their own decisions based on safety, and notify the school if their student will be staying home. Parents’ decisions about student absences for hazardous weather safety reasons will be honored.

For more information, please see www.4j.lane.edu/weather.

