

# *Delaware Valley Regional High School*

## *Board of Education*

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**Scott McKinney**  
*Superintendent*

**Teresa O'Brien, RSBA**  
*School Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

**Michael Kays**  
*Principal*

October 31, 2023

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

As the days get shorter and we approach the Winter months, we want to remind everyone about our protocols for delays and emergency school closures. While it is our goal to keep our school open whenever possible, we will make our decisions in the best interests and safety of all of our students and staff using the best information available at the time of our decision.

We understand that these decisions are time-sensitive and that effective communication is a critical component of delaying or closing our school. Please remember that Delaware Valley Regional High School District transports more than 2,000 students each day and geographically covers 90 square miles. Please also know that this decision is not made in isolation or without input from other important resources. Prior to a decision being made, phone consultations are had with local and county road department officials, neighboring school administrators, and transportation personnel. While in most cases, the school leaders will reach a consensus on the best course of action, there are times when the sending districts will make a different decision based on their unique circumstances.

We will make every effort to ensure a final call is made by 5:30 am and the emergency notification system is put into motion. At times in which we are unsure or basing our decisions on a forecast for a storm that has not started yet, we may elect to start with a delayed opening and follow up with a school closure if the conditions warrant. In the end, whether the decision is obvious or reliant upon the forecast, we have and will continue to err on the side of caution and close/delay school rather than potentially jeopardize the health and safety of our students.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our students and school.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Smik" followed by a stylized flourish.

Scott McKinney, Superintendent

### School Closures:

Information about emergency closures will be communicated via School Messenger. Please ensure that your contact information and preferences are set correctly in PowerSchool. Every effort will be made to send notifications to families and staff as soon as possible so that families and staff can make the necessary arrangements. Closing and delayed opening information will also be posted on the district website and Facebook page.

### Delayed Openings:

The Delaware Valley Regional High School may call a delayed opening to allow for road maintenance personnel time to clear the roadways and allow for safe travel for buses and drivers. In the case of a delayed opening, school will begin exactly 90 minutes after our normal start time. If your student rides the bus, they should report to their bus stop 90 minutes after their scheduled pick-up time. Please be flexible and patient with bus routes to allow for safe travel during inclement conditions.

Be aware that a delayed opening may be changed to a school closing if weather conditions worsen.

### Early Dismissals:

In the rare event that unexpected weather conditions or building issues (power outage, no heat or water) create unsafe conditions, students may be dismissed early from school. This information and release time will be communicated via School Messenger.