



VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

75 Horton Avenue, Valley Stream, New York 11581-1499

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Mr. Unal Karakas
Superintendent of Schools

November 27, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we head into the winter season, we want to ensure you are well-informed about our inclement weather procedures. Our primary goal is the safety and well-being of our students and staff, and we want to make this process as clear and easy to understand as possible.

In most cases, decisions on inclement weather will either be to open or close schools. However, there may be times when a delayed opening will be necessary. A delayed opening would typically be utilized if our dedicated grounds crew could clear up snow and ice in time for a two-hour delay.

On days when a delayed opening is implemented, all District 24 schools will begin their classes two hours later than their usual start times. This means that students must arrive by 10:30 AM, and we kindly request that students not be dropped off before 10:00 AM. This is once again to ensure that our grounds crew can clear up snow and ice. The school day would conclude at the regular dismissal time.

Should we exhaust all traditional snow days that have been built into the calendar, and there is still a need to utilize an additional snow day without being able to implement a delayed opening, we may need to pivot to a remote learning day. This would help ensure that the calendar for the school year remains the same. Your building principal will provide information on remote learning in the event of emergency closings.

All inclement weather decisions will be made by the four superintendents of Valley Stream by 6:00 A.M. This information will be posted on our website: www.valleystreamschooldistrict24.org. You will also receive a text message through our "School Messenger" system, and we will inform WKJY (98.3 FM), News Channel 12 (Cable), and News12.com. If a delay is initially announced but conditions do not improve as expected, we may need to change the decision to close schools. We would inform our families of such a change.

To ensure you receive important messages, please make sure that your Parent Portal personal information is up to date with your current cell phone number. If you have any questions or need clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Building Principal. We are here to assist and address any concerns you may have.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we navigate the winter season together.

Sincerely,

Unal Karakas
Superintendent of Schools

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