



## **Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District**

### ***Inclement Weather School Closing Information***

2022-2023

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The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District's first priority is the safety of our students and staff. We recognize the community expects schools to be open and to provide education, supervision, and other services to its students. The district will uphold these expectations, with the understanding that there may be times where weather may require precautionary measures.

Many factors go into the decision to close or delay the opening of school. It is important for you to know the process.

**Monitoring Current Conditions and Forecasts:** The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District personnel continually monitor forecasts and live radar. Depending on the certainty of weather conditions, the call to close or delay school may be made the prior evening.

**Personnel on the Street:** Johnson Bus Service and Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District School personnel drive the county roads to determine actual road conditions. This process may begin as early as 4:00 am when inclement weather is expected. The roads are continually assessed for safety, and we remain in contact with the county transportation departments. If the roads conditions are favorable to transport students safely to school by 6:00 am, then school will be open.

**Transportation Visibility:** Blowing snow is also a factor in a delay or cancellation.

#### **Parent/ Caregiver Determination:**

- The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District respects a parent's determination regarding their child's attendance at school during inclement weather and will respect the parent's decision to keep their child at home. Parents are expected to contact the school and inform school officials of their determination. The students will be counted as absent, per state statute, and students will be given an opportunity to complete their academic work in the same manner as an excused absence from school.
- The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District believes all parents are committed to keeping children safe and parents will dress their child(ren) appropriately for the weather when sending their child(ren) to school.
- Variable weather conditions are to be expected in Wisconsin. The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District encourages parents have plans in place for weather related delays and closures.

#### **Multiple Variables of Closing or Delaying School:**

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##### **Freezing Rain/ Sleet:**

The most unpredictable weather variable is freezing rain/ sleet. Freezing rain/ sleet is temperature sensitive and may occur quickly. When freezing rain/ sleet is predicted, the decision regarding school is delayed until the latest possible time in an effort to observe the most current and local conditions. Such a decision will generally be made in the morning.



**Snowfall:**

Snowfall is more predictable than freezing rain/ sleet. Meteorologists generally give a 2-inch variable when predicting snow accumulation. Due to the variation in actual snowfall when compared to predicted snowfall, the decision regarding school status is delayed until the snow accumulation indicates a need for action. Such a decision, except in extreme situations, will generally be made in the morning.

When snow has accumulated to a significant level or is at such a level with more snowfall predicted, the decision regarding school may be made the previous evening. A significant level is one in which local authorities have indicated it is unlikely streets will be passable by the following morning.

**Cold:**

Temperature prediction is increasing in accuracy. The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District uses the hourly temperature predictions for its zip code from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (noaa.gov).

**Wind Chill:**

Wind chill prediction is not as accurate as temperature prediction because wind speed can vary by time and location. Local observations of wind speed will affect the decision regarding closing or delaying. The National Weather Service will issue a Wind Chill Warning when temperatures, including wind chill, are below -35 degrees. If the NOAA issues a wind chill warning, the school district will consider a two-hour delay for the start of school. If the wind chill warning extends past 9:00 am, the school will consider closing. The variability of wind speed is a key factor. Such a determination will be made as early as possible, perhaps the evening before, but certainly by 6:00 am.

**Functional Facilities:**

Utility issues (gas, electricity, water) may cause a school to close. Issues associated with cold, including water supply to a building and electricity to a building, may cause school to be cancelled.

**Transportation:**

Buses are critical to transporting students. Issues associated with cold, including buses not starting, may cause school to be delayed or cancelled depending on the severity of the situation.

**Delayed Start:**

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In order to provide time for roads and weather conditions to improve and become safer for travel, the Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District may use a delayed start of school.

A delayed start to school allows the school district to do the following:

- Provide more time to assess roads, buildings, and transportation to begin school with improved conditions
- Project whether a closure of school is needed

If a two-hour delay is called, lunch will be served.

School will begin at: High School: 9:49am | Middle School: 9:45am | Elementary School: 10:45am.

\*When riding a bus, please plan to catch the bus two hours later than you normally would.



## **School Cancellation:**

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All Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District schools will be cancelled. This includes after-school events, meetings, and practices. Exceptions may occur with approval by the principal and/ or Superintendent if the emergency situation no longer exists, but will determine on a case-by-case basis. The State of Wisconsin requires 1,137 hours of direct student instruction. The District has one inclement weather day built into the school calendar (May 26<sup>th</sup>). After this day is used, the Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District will communicate how instruction will be satisfied to meet the requirements.

## **Emergency Closings and Delays:**

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We encourage parents and caregivers to have a plan for school delays, cancellations, and emergency dismissal situations. In the event of inclement weather or other conditions, notifications regarding closing and delays may be obtained from the following:

### **Radio:**

93.7 | 96.1 | 98.1 | 104.5 | 106.5 | 1330am

### **Television:**

Green Bay: 2 – WBAY | 5 – WFRV | 11 – WLUK

Milwaukee: 4 – WTMJ | 6 – WITI | 12 – WISN | 58 – WMLW

### **Internet:**

Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District: [www.goresorters.com](http://www.goresorters.com)

Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah School District Facebook Page

### **Phone:**

School personnel will also send a message through the Blackboard school messenger system. Parents can contact the school to determine which numbers will be communicated with in an emergency.

Please ensure your contact information is updated. If you have questions regarding any changes, please call your child's school office at: Elementary/ Middle School: (920) 876-3307 | High School: (920) 876-3381

