

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT 54

November 7, 2008

RE: Delayed Openings and Winter Storm Cancellations

Dear Parent/s Guardians:

It is that time of year when winter storms can and have caused school to be canceled in MSAD #54. There are occasional days when we might be able to hold school if we had an additional hour or two to allow plow trucks to complete their work or clean up crews to finish clearing doorways and sidewalks.

I am writing to you to let you know that MSAD #54 may on occasion utilize **one or two hour delays** in the morning when it is determined that we can safely hold school if we were afforded the delayed start time.

The procedure for announcing a delay would be the same as for closing school for the day or an early dismissal. Announcements will be made on the same television and radio stations as usual. Buses and start times will be one or two hours later than normal. Staff and students would report to school one or two hours later than a normal day and be dismissed at the regular time.

If it becomes necessary to dismiss school earlier than usual during the day, high school and middle school dismissal will generally be at 11:00 a.m. and elementary school will be at 12:00 p.m. Please check radio and television stations for specific times.

We believe that this approach will be helpful in causing less disruption for parents than an all day closing on days where the extra time will allow for safe transport to school.

Weather and road conditions vary widely around the District. Decisions on whether to hold school or not are made for safety reasons. **You, as parents or guardians, are always the best decision makers as to whether or not you believe the conditions on your particular road or street are safe for your child.**

Please do not hesitate to call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Brent H. Colbry
Superintendent of Schools