

**January 21, 2024**

**Subject: Important Information - Inclement Weather Bus Routes**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of our commitment to student safety during inclement weather, we want to share details about our Inclement Weather Bus Route Protocol. This ensures a coordinated and secure transportation plan for students when snowy conditions may affect regular bus routes.

Inclement Weather Bus Hubs: We have designated hub locations where buses will be stationed to pick up and drop off students. Please find the updated list of hub locations and their corresponding morning and afternoon timings:

Hub Location	Morning Arrival	Morning Departure	Afternoon Arrival
Alma	7:00 AM	7:35 AM	-
Paxico	7:00 AM	7:35 AM	3:50 PM
Maple Hill	7:00 AM	7:35 AM	4:10 PM
McFarland	7:10 AM	7:45 AM	4:00 PM

Morning Drop-Off Details: In the morning, buses will be at these locations for approximately 35 minutes before departure. This window allows parents to drop off students earlier than the departure time, providing flexibility for parents to get to work while ensuring their child is in a safe and warm place (the bus).

District Two-Hour Weather Delay: In the event of a two-hour weather delay, inclement weather routes **will automatically be initiated by default**. For example, if the original morning bus arrival time were 7:00 AM, during a two-hour weather delay, the adjusted arrival time would be 9:00 AM. and the departure time would be 9:35 AM

Morning and Afternoon Pre-K during Weather Delay: Please note that when we call a two-hour weather delay, **morning and afternoon pre-k classes will be suspended** for that day.

Important Points:

1. **Attendance Policy:** If weather conditions make reaching the hubs or school unsafe for our bus-riding families, the absence will not be counted against your student. Safety is our top priority.
2. **No House Pick-Ups:** During the Inclement Weather Route, there will be no exceptions for house pick-ups. Hubs are the designated pick-up and drop-off points.
3. **Indoor Waiting at McFarland:** The McFarland hub at the Lutheran Church will open its doors for students to wait indoors until the bus arrives. As a backup, we will also have a bus stationed there from 7:10 AM until its departure at 7:45 AM.

Afternoon Pick-Up Locations:

- McFarland: Lutheran Church at 4:00 PM
- Paxico: WJHS at 3:50 PM
- Maple Hill: In front of the MHES building at 4:10 PM
- Drivers will wait with students at these locations until parents arrive to pick up their students.

We understand the challenges that rural roads present when the snow comes to visit and appreciate your cooperation in ensuring a safe and coordinated approach. Thank you for your understanding and collaboration as we prioritize our students' well-being and safety.

Best Regards,

Dr. Troy Pitsch  
Superintendent, USD 329-Wabaunsee