



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
835 OLD CLAIRTON ROAD
JEFFERSON HILLS, PA 15025
PHONE: 412-655-8450
FAX: 412-655-9544
www.wjhsd.net

WEST ELIZABETH - JEFFERSON HILLS - PLEASANT HILLS

DR. MICHAEL P. GHILANI
Superintendent
SCOTT T. MILBURN
Assistant Superintendent-Secondary Education
MATTHEW J. PATTERSON
Assistant Superintendent-Elementary Education

TRACY A. HARRIS
Director of Finance/Board Secretary
DR. LINDSAY L. PFISTER
Director of Human Resources
ELIZABETH H. WHEAT
Supervisor of Special Education/Pupil Personnel

December 2017

Dear West Jefferson Hills Families:

Now that the cold weather has arrived, I'd like to remind you about our emergency weather procedures. When I make the decision to delay or cancel school, student and staff safety is my primary concern. Unfortunately, weather is very unpredictable and conditions may vary throughout our community. There is no exact amount of snow, temperature, wind chill or weather condition that dictates when to delay or cancel school. Many resources are used to gather information, and I carefully review multiple weather forecasts. I also consult with the Jefferson Hills and Pleasant Hills Police Departments, borough managers, public works' departments, Director of Facilities, and our bus company to gather reports from our plowing crews and make first-hand observations in some of our neighborhoods. When conditions require the delay or closing of school, you will receive a message from our phone alert system, Connect5, from Blackboard Connect. Delay or closing information will also be announced on our website at www.wjhsd.net, Facebook and, Twitter, and TV stations. Typically, when school is canceled, after-school and evening activities will also be canceled. School cancellations will be made up according to the pre-selected make-up days listed on our school calendar.

Connect5

In the event of a school delay or closing, you will receive an automated phone call, and/or text message, from the District's phone alert system (Connect5) to the primary phone number you have listed with the school. Calls are typically made no later than 10:00 PM and no earlier than 5:00 AM. On rare occasions, I may need to delay or cancel school after 6:00 AM or change a delay to a cancellation when there is a question about road conditions or extreme cold. The success of this system depends on the accuracy of your contact information in your child's PowerSchool accounts. If your information has changed, please make the updates in PowerSchool, or ask the building secretary to make the updates for you.

Information Sources for a Delay or Closing

- Connect 5: phone call, text message, e-mail
- District website: www.wjhsd.net
- Facebook
- Twitter
- KDKA-TV and kdka.com
- WTAE-TV and wtae.com
- WPXI-TV and wpxi.com

Letter from the Superintendent
December 2017
Page 2

There is always going to be snow, cold and inclement weather in Western Pennsylvania. There may be days when school will be in session when the roads may be snow covered and the temperature is cold. On those days, we all need to drive with caution and make sure that our children are appropriately dressed for the cold weather. As always, please use your best judgment regarding the weather conditions in your own neighborhood.

Thank you for your help and patience during this winter season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael P. Ghilani". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Michael P. Ghilani
Superintendent

MPG/pjz