

Morton Grove School District 70 Winter Weather Procedures

#### Who makes the decision?

After conferring with the other superintendents in Niles Township, the Superintendent makes the decision about the closing of school.

#### When is the decision made?

Every effort is made to make a final decision by 6:00 a.m. Notification will be posted on our website and we will send out automated phone calls and emails.

### How is the decision made?

We weigh several factors when we make decisions about closing schools. We confer with the other school districts in the township and may contact the police, the Village and other relevant sources. Some of the factors we consider include the following:

- Whether or not we can start and move buses.
- The amount of snow/ice accumulation.
- Predictions as to whether the snow/ice will continue.
- Parking lot, sidewalk and road conditions.
- Outside temperature and wind chill.

#### Will we close school if conditions worsen?

Keep in mind that, even if weather conditions worsen, we cannot reverse our decision in the morning without endangering students. Once we make the decision to open school, many parents rely on it and go to work. If we then try to send students home, many will return to empty houses which is not safe.

# Information about automated phone messaging:

<u>School Messenger</u> is our automated phone messaging system. It is used in place of the traditional "phone tree" to notify parents and staff of school closing and other significant events. Everyone receives the same recorded message within minutes.

To receive a message, you need only answer your phone or let the message go to voicemail. Calls are automatically sent to the phone numbers you have provided to the school. Please be sure that we have all the updated phone numbers and email addresses that you would like us to use when notifications are made.

## A parent's decision

Although the District does its best to make the decision that is best for everyone, we know that often no perfect decision exists. If you do not feel it is safe for your child to attend school, we respect your right to keep your child home. If that is the case, please notify the school of your child's absence.