



## How Our District Decides About Weather Delays & Closures

There are multiple factors the Morrow County School District considers when making what often seems like the most difficult decision administrators have to make. Student safety is always our #1 priority. Some of the factors we use to make our decision are:

- Weather forecast – when learning of potential weather, we consistently check for updates to help determine our school delay/closure decisions.
- Oregon Department Of Transportation – we are fortunate to have communication on a regular basis with this agency to receive specific road updates. These start as early as 3:00 AM and provide specifics regarding the state roads.
- County Road Department – we are in contact with this agency to get updates before 5:00 AM to make a decision about full-day cancellations and before 8:00 AM for potential cancellations after a 3-hour delay. They provide specifics on our county roads.

What we have discovered over the past couple of years is that there is a vast difference in a 2-Hour Delay and a 3-Hour Delay. The 3-Hour Delay is a tremendous benefit, allowing us to assess the situation and make decisions after there is more daylight, with the support of the resources listed above. Also, we have found that the additional hour makes a significant difference in temperature.

Ultimately, the district collaborates with Mid-Columbia Bus Company to make our final decision, with advisement from all of the crews out driving the roads, most of which include our bus routes.

Lastly, the Morrow County School District understands that if our families are worried about the safety of their children, we support your decision to do what you think is best for your children.

When a Delay or Closure occurs, the most accurate sources from which to get information are:

**Morrow County School District website:** <https://morrow.k12.or.us/>

**MCS D District Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/morrowcountysd/>