

**CRESTWOOD SCHOOL**  
**GENERAL NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR SCHOOL CLOSING**  
**OR EARLY WEATHER DISMISSALS**

The district has an opportunity to participate in an emergency alert system through the Edgar County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency. This system was made available a couple of years ago to the district and we found that it worked effectively and efficiently. If you have not already done so, we would encourage you to sign up per the directions of a sheet (Emergency Notification System) that will be sent home with all students the first day of school. **This will be our primary mode of contact for emergency closings and early dismissals throughout the year.**

If school must be closed for adverse weather conditions such as extreme heat, snow, ice, extreme cold, etc., the ESDA text alert system will be used first. Some local radio and television stations will also be utilized for announcements at times. Possible stations include WPRS (1440 AM), (98.5 FM), and 102.5 or local television stations of Channel 2, 3, or 10. We will also try to post on the school website at [www.crestwood.k12.il.us](http://www.crestwood.k12.il.us) or on the Crestwood Facebook page.

Due to the number of students in the building, we cannot call all parents nor can we have all students making telephone calls. Please make arrangements in advance so your child knows what to do if an early dismissal should occur for either heat or cold/snow. We appreciate your cooperation.

**EARLY DISMISSALS DUE TO HEAT**

School districts are not permitted by law to close school in advance in anticipation of hot weather or high heat. These decisions must be made on a day to day basis once school is in session. Several factors are considered when a decision is made to release students early due to high temperatures. These include the actual temperature both inside and outside the building, high humidity, and the conditions within the classrooms. If it is a very warm day, please be prepared for the possibility of an early dismissal. While most of our classrooms are air-conditioned, the hallways, lunch room, and gymnasium are not. It does get extremely warm on some days. Every effort is made to allow children to have frequent drinks and monitor their physical activity during these times. Buses will run regular routes on early dismissals for heat.

**EARLY DISMISSALS FOR EMERGENCIES**

Emergency closings are not something that a school anticipates making, but sometimes becomes necessary. This was the case several years ago when Paris High School had to close due to gas fumes from a nearby facility. If Crestwood School must make an emergency closing, the same procedures as above will be followed. Your help is appreciated in these matters as you spread the word with your friends and co-workers since obviously one is not expecting such a closing and therefore not listening for any announcements. However, if you can have a plan with your child, it makes it easier for everyone. Buses will run regular routes on early dismissals for emergency closings.

**EARLY DISMISSALS DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

If students are in attendance and school must be closed early for adverse weather conditions such as snow, ice, extreme cold, etc. the announcements will be made as outlined in the first part of the letter. Buses will run regular routes on early dismissals for adverse weather conditions unless otherwise stated as running snow routes. Snow routes are different. Information regarding snow routes/mud routes is contained in a separate letter.