



ORCHARD VIEW SCHOOLS

35 S. Sheridan Dr.
MUSKEGON, MI 49442
www.orchardview.org

It's a great day to be a Cardinal.



Mr. Jim Nielsen, Superintendent
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As we gear up for winter in West Michigan, it's important to acknowledge the challenges that winter weather can pose to the safety of our staff and students when traveling to and from school. Every year, severe weather in the form of heavy snow, sleet, ice, freezing temperatures, or other extreme conditions associated with living in Michigan may lead to school closures.

Closing school for any reason is never an easy decision. When considering a weather-related closure, we take a number of factors into account. This process usually begins the day before, as we start receiving weather alerts from the National Weather Service. We also gather information from our transportation department, other local school districts, and local and state police agencies. Early in the morning, central office staff reviews all available information and travels the local roads to assess conditions before making a decision.

Based on the information gathered and the condition of local roads, a decision to open or close school is made. Since many of our students rely on school transportation, we strive to make this decision by 6:00 AM. If school is closed, this will be communicated in the following ways:

1. District robocall
2. Email
3. District website
4. District Facebook page
5. Local news and radio stations

If school is closed for the day, all classes, including virtual and in-person instruction, are canceled. Decisions regarding athletic practices and evening events will be made later in the day, depending on weather conditions at that time. However, in most cases, practices and events will also be canceled.

The safety of our students and staff is always our top priority. Temperatures below -15 degrees Fahrenheit, visibility of less than ¼ mile, and ice-covered or impassable roads are all examples of unsafe conditions that may result in a school closure. Regardless of the weather, please ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the conditions each day. You know your child best, and if you feel it is unsafe for them to attend school due to weather conditions, please contact the school office in the morning to report their absence.

Sincerely,
Jim Nielsen

Jim Nielsen

Superintendent, Orchard View Schools
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