



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WESTFIELD

N7046 COUNTY ROAD M

WESTFIELD, WI 53964

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Good Afternoon Everyone!

This winter seems like a sleeping giant that has woke up and is very angry at us! In my 28 years in education I've never seen the need for so many canceled days due to inclement weather events. As of today (2/21/19), we have had nine inclement weather days and 2 late starts. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and State law dictate that we need to have a certain number of minutes of instruction per year. Traditionally, the School District of Westfield builds a lot of additional minutes into its calendar and typically doesn't come close to exhausting all of it's time banked for snow, cold and ice emergencies. This year, however, is a different story!

Currently, we have just under 2 days left before we need to begin making up time with students. If we take a wait and see approach we could end up with a situation where we need to extend the school year in June. By being proactive now, we are hoping we can avoid that scenario.

Last night, I asked the School Board to consider some options to help bail us out of this situation and reestablish a buffer of time for inclement weather, considering we still have the potential of at least 6-7 weeks of considerable weather events ahead of us.

Here are the changes we have made:

1. We will add 10 minutes to each day for the remainder of the year beginning March 4th. For every 5 minutes added we gain about 3/4 of a school day so this gives us an additional 1.5 days of school to add to our 2 days we still have to use.

Original Schedule

	<i>School Starts</i>	<i>Ends</i>
CES	7:55	2:55
OES	7:55	2:55
WES	8:20	3:20
HS/MS	8:04	3:32

New Schedule

	<i>School Starts</i>	<i>Ends</i>
CES	7:50	3:00
OES	7:50	3:00
WES	8:15	3:25
HS/MS	7:59	3:37

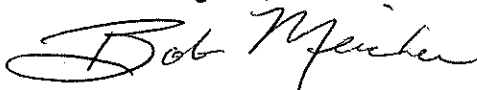
*This means bus routes will pick-up students 5 minutes earlier and drop-off students 5 minutes later than normal. The activity busses will still leave the high school at 6:00pm.

2. **Friday, April 5th is scheduled as a teacher inservice day. It will now be a normal school day with students.** This will give us an additional day in the inclement weather bank to use.

***NO WORRIES....We realize some families make plans around these inservice days. If you have plans for this day there is no need for you to change your individual plans. Your child will be given an excused absence if you already have plans to be gone. Please let your school office know if you will be gone on this day.

This plan will give us a total of 4.5 days to use for additional weather days. Beyond these plans, we would need to consider adding days to the end of the year. Thank you for your patience with these changes as winter continues to challenge our ability to serve your family. The sleeping giant can go away now....think spring....think warm!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Meicher". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Bob Meicher
District Administrator