



Hartford
A System of Schools

SPORT & MEDICAL SCIENCES ACADEMY

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Dedication Responsibility
Discipline Respect

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Dear Suburban Parents,

There continues to be questions about transportation as a result of home district schools being closed and how that affects transportation. I hope I can shed some light on this issue.

When the home district schools have a planned day off but the Hartford schools and SMSA are in session.

Example : The home district is off for any number of reasons that are planned as part of the regular school calendar :
Jewish Holiday, Election Day, Veteran's Day, Columbus Day, Teacher's professional development in-service day, full day Parent Conferences, Winter Vacation in February, Spring Vacation in April

Buses will run and pick students up on time in their hometown district and return students home on the regular schedule.

When there is inclement weather or other emergency canceling school at the home district.

Example : The home school district cancels school due to any of the following:
Snow storm, ice storm, hurricanes, loss of power at the school and In the community, other natural or man made disaster.

Buses will NOT pick up students at their district bus stops and bring them to school. If students can not make it to school they will be given an Excused Absence.

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When the district school system closes due to an emergency or weather, and the buses are not running.

Example : Parents drive the student to school.

We think this is great, but remember that if the buses are not running in the morning, they are NOT running in the afternoon. This means that parents must also pick students up at the 2:40 dismissal time for that day.

When the home district opens school late, but Hartford Schools open on time and/or before the district schools opens.

Example : Hartford is opening on time but Manchester is opening one hour late.

The bus will pick students up on the district schedule, one hour late. Students will be marked with an Excused late to school when they arrive at SMSA

Example : Hartford is opening one hour late but Enfield is opening two hours late.

The bus will pick students up on the district schedule, two hours late. Students will be marked with an Excused late to school when they arrive at SMSA.

When the home district dismisses early but Hartford dismisses later or at the regular time.

Example : Cromwell is dismissing at 11:00 am due to an impending storm, but Hartford is not dismissing until 1:00 or will stay in session until the Regular dismissal time of 2:40 pm

Once we receive word that another district is dismissing early we send out a voice message to the families in that town. Students stay in class until the bus arrives and then are called out of class for their early dismissal. Early dismissal are difficult as buses usually pull in one at a time and there is little predictability or uniformity in the dismissal. We dismiss one bus at time as they arrive.

When one town dismisses early but a second town whose students ride the same bus does not dismiss early. This is worst of all possible scenarios.

Example: A bus picks up students in Rocky Hill and Wethersfield. Rocky Hill is releasing at 12:00 noon but Wethersfield is dismissing at the regular time.

We try to secure a bus for the Wethersfield kids to take at the regular dismissal time. If no bus is available then we send out the message both to Rocky Hill and Wethersfield parents. We also ask that students call their parents via school and cell phone. When the bus comes we call both the Rocky Hill and Wethersfield students down to get on the bus that is available to take them home.