

## **Inclement weather building pick-ups in the afternoon**

For the past several years the District has been trying to come up with a way to get the students from their buildings to the loading zone in the afternoon without having them walk in or wait for their buses in foul weather. The logistics of moving almost 2000 students at the same time while trying to match the move with buses that are returning to campus at different times has proved to be very difficult to say the least. This has always led to students standing in the inclement weather for longer than need be. Another, more important downside is that students are out of their normal bus loading routine. This is a very stressful time for the very young students. Taking them out of trained, everyday procedures is never a good idea. They can get very confused about what bus they are to get on to go home which is a definite safety concern.

Because of these issues, effective immediately, we will reserve the afternoon building pick-up procedure for only those times that the weather is posing a direct threat. Examples of this are tornadoes, hail, lightning in the immediate vicinity and extremely low temperatures. So when the weather is bad but not a direct threat, students will be walking in rain and snow to get to their bus. Parents need to accept the responsibility for sending the children on those days with appropriate rain or snow clothing. This mostly impacts students at Ridge, View, Crest and High School but all students should come prepared.

To help minimize time spent in inclement weather we have put in place a procedure that holds the students at their buildings until most all of the buses are parked in the loading zone ready to receive them. Of course we cannot eliminate all of the time a student may be in inclement weather so we strongly urge parents to send their students to school prepared for whatever weather may turn up on any given day.

One procedure we will keep in place is building drop-off's in the morning because of inclement weather. This procedure is not dependant on any timing/routing issues and is easy to accomplish. This helps ensures students get to school safe and comfortable and ready for the day.