

MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

2008-2009 SCHOOL CLOSING AND SNOW POLICY

Occasionally during the winter, inclement weather forces us to close school for the entire day, to open school late, or to close early. Emergency situations (power outages, etc.) may also necessitate a school closing. All parents are urged to make arrangements **now** for the care of their children when schedule changes are made.

HOW TO FIND OUT ABOUT SCHOOL CLOSINGS

- TV stations (Channels 4, and 7)
- AM Radio (WMAL, 630- major school systems only)
- MSNV website – www.msnv.org
- MSNV voice mail (call (703) 256-9577 and press 6)

If you have any doubts about bringing or sending your child to school, **keep your child home**. (Please do not call the office unless absolutely necessary; the staff will need the phone lines open to cope with the early closing situation.)

PLEASE NOTE: If school is in session and the roads are becoming treacherous, come for your child. Pacific Lane is very steep and it takes just a light snowfall to make it slick and very dangerous. If the roads are slippery, don't attempt to come down Pacific Lane; also, avoid Oak Court. Instead, take Backlick to Braddock, go east on Braddock to Dodson, north on Dodson to Pacific Lane.

Academic Program Emergency/Snow Plan

As with the calendar, MSNV generally follows the policy of Fairfax County schools regarding snow days. If the weather is bad, **listen to your radio, watch TV, call MSNV for a recorded message, or check MSNV's web site at www.msnv.org**.

* If Fairfax County schools close for bad weather or road conditions, **MSNV will be closed, also**. Note: We ordinarily do not close for heat/air quality alerts, as we are fully air-conditioned.

* If Fairfax County schools open **1 or 2 hours late**, there will be no morning Extended Day, and **MSNV will open at 10:00 a.m.** for all students. The morning half-day program will end at noon; the full day program will end at 3:00 p.m. Extended Day will be open from noon to 6:00 p.m.

* **In the event MSNV deviates from any Fairfax County closing decision**, the Head will begin proper notification. If Fairfax County schools close during the day, MSNV will close at noon, but it is conceivable that MSNV will decide to close regardless of Fairfax's decision. Should this happen, you will be notified via the telephone tree and email.

Extended Day Emergency/Snow Plan

* **When school is closed for the day**, Extended Day will be closed all day.

* **When school opens at 10:00 a.m.**, Extended Day will not be open in the morning, but will be operating as scheduled in the afternoon.

* **When school closes early** due to worsening weather conditions or other emergencies during the day, **Extended Day will remain open** until children can be picked up. Because bad weather and other emergencies cause major traffic problems in this area, all parents should make plans for a prompt pick-up when school closes early.