

## **Renaissance Academy's Weather Closure Procedures**

While snowy winters are anticipated in Utah, occasionally we will experience storm activity that surpasses our general expectation. While snowstorms do present challenges for us, Renaissance Academy aims to keep our school open whenever possible.

### ***Why keep school open during a snowstorm?***

Prior to and during a snowstorm, we monitor reports on road conditions, transportation capability, and the operational status of our building. We will keep our school open as long as these reports indicate we can do so safely. In the rare circumstance that we decide to either 1) delay opening or 2) cancel school – a notice will be posted on our website and Facebook page no later than 7:00 am on day of the closure or delay.

In the midst of snowy weather it may seem peculiar for us to keep our doors open. However, we do so for the following reasons:

- 1) Since Renaissance does not have physical school boundaries, our families come from a large geographic area. Weather and street conditions can vary from neighborhood to neighborhood. While things may look really bad where you live, that may not be the case for all Renaissance families.
- 2) Like any public service, people count on our schools to remain open. Our role in the community goes beyond providing educational services to our 730 students. For example:
  - a) 20% of our students rely on free/reduced lunch to get the daily nutrition they need
  - b) For those students without a parent at home during the school day an unscheduled closure means that those students would home alone without supervision.
  - c) A functioning school building provides warmth and safety in addition to classroom instruction.

### ***What if reports indicate significant weather related difficulties?***

If reports indicate extreme challenges to ongoing school operations, we may decide to implement a late start to resolve the situation. The emergency late start schedule still counts as a full day of instruction, thus no make up day in the spring is needed. Should we determine that a late start schedule would not alleviate those challenges, Renaissance may declare an emergency closure. Emergency closures require make up days during our regularly scheduled spring break.

Regardless of the school's decision to keep school open on a given day, parents have the final say when it comes to their child's safety. If you do not think it is safe to send or take your kids to school during a weather incident, please keep them home. We will be understanding regarding tardiness and absences during inclement winter weather.