



Dr. Nicholas M. Gledich, Superintendent of Schools  
Colorado Springs School District 11, 1115 North El Paso Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903  
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Dear District 11 Parent(s):

I want to assure you that the safety of our students, staff, and parents/guardians is foremost in our minds when we make the difficult decisions about school closings, early safety dismissals, and delayed safety starts.

Sudden weather changes are part of what we expect in Colorado. Bad weather often comes suddenly and goes quickly. To help us cope with the job of making sure our students are safe, School District 11 has appointed supervisory personnel to drive sections of District 11 during a storm. We assign the driving sections because, as we all know, the weather at Doherty High School can be totally different from the weather at Chipeta Elementary School or Mann Middle School.

These supervisory personnel report on weather and road conditions, especially noting poor visibility, poor traction and other hazardous street conditions, wind chill factors, and snow accumulation. Completed reports by these on-the-street supervisors are consolidated and called in to me. Discussions occur, and further driving reviews and conversations may occur. These telephone reports are considered together with reports from the U.S. Weather Bureau and the Colorado Springs Street Division, and in coordination with adjoining school districts. After all the data is examined, a decision is made for a delayed safety start, school closure, or school as usual. All of this usually begins around 2 a.m. and is accomplished by 5:30 a.m. so that the decision may be reported to the public in time for parents/guardians to make plans for the day.

You can check for delays/closures on the D-11 web site at [www.d11.org](http://www.d11.org) and/or Comcast Channel 16/Falcon Broadband 73, by calling 520-2000 or 520-2300 for a recorded message, or tuning into the local CBS, FOX, ABC or NBC news affiliates. You can also sign up to receive an **e-mail and/or text notification about delays and/or closures!** Go to [www.d11.org](http://www.d11.org) and click on the *NTouch* icon. If you already have an account, log in; if not, create a new account. Once logged in, click the User Profile tab and then the Subscription tab. Now select District 11. When the available groups appear, click on the Delays/Closure Notification group and ADD it to your list. You will now receive messages when we delay or close schools. The District also posts delay/closure information on the District 11 Facebook page and Twitter feed. The District 11 app, which can be downloaded for free in the iTunes or Google Play stores by searching Colorado Springs District 11, also has a push notification feature that automatically pops up on iPhones and Android devices if there is a delay/closure. It is best to review two or more communication channels to be sure you have accurate information.

Please remember: You as a parent make the final decision concerning the safety of your child. If you think conditions are unsafe when the District keeps schools open, you may keep your child at home. Your child's absence will be excused, and all work may be made up without penalty.

If you have further questions about how inclement weather decisions are made, please use *NTouch* to submit your questions. A District 11 staff person will get back to you within the week.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas M. Gledich".

Dr. Nicholas M. Gledich  
Superintendent of Schools