

November 1, 2019

Dear WCSD Community:

We always hope to enter the new calendar year without any school delays or closings, but they are often part of the winter season, especially throughout Dutchess County. As you can see the [school calendar](#) allows for up to five (5) days to close related to emergencies and/or inclement weather. If the District uses **more than** the five emergency days built into the calendar to close school, then students would need to come to school based on the *make-up* schedule outlined on the school calendar. If the District uses **fewer than** five emergency days for school closings, then students would not come to school on those days as outlined in the *give back days* noted on the school calendar. For all WCSD families, weather-related delays and closings are posted on our website, as well as local radio and television stations. And, for parents of our high school students who drive to school, we encourage parents to have their children ride the school bus during inclement weather.

Please remember students will not be in school on the dates below:

November 5, 2019	Superintendent's Conference Day
November 11, 2019	Veteran's Day
November 27, 28, and 29, 2019	Thanksgiving Recess

During the month of November our elementary schools will have three (3) half-days to conduct Parent Teacher Conferences. Attending parent-teacher conferences is so important because it provides our WCSD parents with the opportunity to become more engaged in their child's growth and academic performance. Teachers will share their expectations for your child. If you understand and know what is expected in the classroom, you can better assist your child throughout the school year. Please remember that Parent-Teacher Conferences are a formal meeting. However, never hesitate to contact your child's teacher or building administrator if you want to discuss your child's

academic and social and emotional growth. At WCSD we live and embody our Mission Statement and Core Values through our home and school relationships -- *Parents as Partners*. The Office of Curriculum and Instruction has posted some pertinent questions related to [Parent-Teacher Conferences](#) that can contribute to your productive meeting with your child's teacher.

I would like to congratulate all of our student athletes who are about to complete or have completed their sports season. They have represented our WCSD community well and have given their best throughout the season. And, for our athletes who are still not done, we wish them continued success, keeping in mind that integrity and true sportsmanship are our top priority.

I also want to extend a Happy Thanksgiving to all of our families who participate and cherish this time of year filled with gratitude and appreciation. And, as part of our WCSD beliefs and Core Values, "*we believe embracing diversity in all its forms enriches the human experiences,*" we wish all of our families a very healthy and joyful November!

Sincerely,
José L. Carrión
Superintendent of Schools