



Jose L. Carrion, Superintendent of Schools
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February 1, 2019

Dear WCSD Community,

Welcome to the second semester. If you have any concerns and/or questions related to your child’s progress, please don’t hesitate to contact his or her teachers and/or building-level administration. You are your child’s first and best advocate.

As we enter into the third quarter of school, we continue to find ourselves contemplating and making difficult decisions related to school closings, morning delays, and/or early dismissals. As of today, WCSD has utilized two emergency days. Please see the chart below:

EMERGENCY DAYS	<i>Friday, November 16, 2018</i>	<i>Tuesday, January 29, 2019</i>
SCHOOL DELAYS	<i>Tuesday, January 8, 2019</i>	<i>Tuesday, January 22, 2019</i>
	<i>Wednesday, January 30, 2019</i>	<i>Thursday, January 31, 2019</i>
EARLY DISMISSALS	<i>Wednesday, January 30, 2019</i>	

Scheduled into the WCSD calendar are three remaining emergency days. In the event that these days are not needed for emergency closings, the following days are give back days:

- Friday, May 17, 2019
- Thursday, May 23, 2019
- Tuesday, May 28, 2019

If additional emergency days are needed, the calendar will be adjusted and the following days will be used, in the following order, as make-up days:

- Monday, April 22, 2019
- Monday, April 15, 2019
- Tuesday, April 16, 2019
- Wednesday, April 17, 2019
- Thursday, April 18, 2019

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Please feel free to link to our calendar for school closings, holidays, and give back emergency days -- [2018-2019 School Calendar](#).

The WCSD Board of Education and administration continue to play a very active role in advocating for WCSD students. Locally, our Board members participate in the Board of Education Legislative Action Committee (LAC) and the Dutchess County School Boards Association (DCSBA). On Saturday, January 12, 2019, school districts in Dutchess County attended the DCSBA Legislative Breakfast to better acquaint our state representatives about key issues affecting our school districts, including:

- [Smart Schools Bond Act \(SSBA\)](#)
- [School Districts' Capital Projects Costs and Timelines](#)
- [School Districts' Tax Levy Cap Modifications](#)
- [Value of BOCES](#)

As you can see, the above bulleted items are active links to resources which will provide you with the opportunity to read more about what each topic represents for school districts.

As shared with you in the past, the District is moving forward with the second phase of the Strategic Plan. Our goal is to have as much collaboration and input from our Board and District-wide Committees and community stakeholders as possible. The information gathering process will be done both in person as well as through convenient, electronic submissions. Our primary goal is not to reinvent the wheel, but to ensure that the great work already started at WCSD continues and that we identify and expand our focus upon additional areas as we move forward. All input is welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact administration regarding the Strategic Plan by email at jose.carrion@wcsdny.org and daren.lolkema@wcsdny.org. We have been leading this work and look forward to keeping you updated on new developments.

Our goal is to always ensure the success of all WCSD students. As stated in our Mission Statement our goal, as your educational partner, "is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions, and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community."

Happy February!

Sincerely,
José L. Carrión
Superintendent of Schools