



MANCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT NO. 37
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Dear Manchester School District Families:

We recognize that the timing of this morning's announcement to close Manchester public schools was inconvenient for many families who were on their way to school or work. The results of last night's storm and the time to collect and assess information complicated some of the coordination that takes place when we decide to close or delay school.

Unlike during a winter storm when the impact on the city is sometimes easier to evaluate all at once, reports about power outages at several schools today came in at different times. The outage at Beech Street Elementary School had the most serious effect, because that is where all of the meals for 13 out of 14 elementary school are prepared. The decision to cancel school came when we determined the district-wide impact.

We understand that some students were waiting at bus stops or had already been picked up. Manchester Transportation Authority successfully implemented our emergency plan to ensure students' safety in a situation like this. Every child was returned home and never in danger of being left alone. For high school students whose bus cards were punched today, tomorrow morning's ride to school will be free of charge.

As we always do after an emergency situation, our administrative team will review internal procedures and look at ways we can improve.

Respectfully,

Bolgen Vargas, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Board of School Committee

It is the policy of the Manchester Board of School Committee, in its actions, and those of its employees, that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of age, sex, race, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, religious creed, national origin or sexual orientation for employment in, or operation and administration of any program or activity in the Manchester School District. The Title IX Coordinator is Pamela Hogan; the 504 Coordinator is Sharon DeVincent. Please see above for contact information.