



# *A note from the Superintendent*

by Matthew Moore

## **Winter Tips**

Winter officially arrives this month, and with it, a host of weather-related concerns that can affect student health and well-being and impact the school calendar. To help your family prepare for the cold weather season ahead, I would like to share some reminders about inclement weather closings and delays and tips to help your child stay healthy during the winter months.

### **Winter is here!**

- \* Our district is once again participating in the **Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) program** and our first ten days missed due to inclement weather will be NTI days. “Make-up” days will start with the eleventh day missed. NTI days provide for valuable learning time regardless of weather or walls. Each of our schools has shared their individual NTI plans. If you have any questions, please contact your child’s teacher for more information.
- \* **School closings, delays, and early dismissals** are reported to the local media and announced on the school and district websites, [www.jessamine.kyschools.us](http://www.jessamine.kyschools.us), as soon as the decision is made. Social media is also a great way to receive timely information; you can find us on Facebook and Twitter. We will also utilize One Call, our district-wide notification system, to alert you in the event of an early dismissal. To assist us in our communication efforts, please ensure that your child’s school has up-to-date and complete contact information for your family.
- \* When a **two hour delay** is called, all school starting times and bus a.m. pick-up times will shift by two full hours. The school day will end at the regular time and p.m. bus routes will run on the regular schedule. In the event of a two hour delay, morning session preschool will not attend. Afternoon session preschool will begin and end on time. Kindergarten will follow the 2 hour delay and will end at the regular time.
- \* When school is cancelled or dismissed early, **all afternoon and evening activities (other than athletics) are cancelled** as well. The decision to continue with athletic events is left up to the principal and/or athletic director at each school, based on potential conditions at game time.

- \* For information about our district’s **snow day child care program**, contact Director Jenny Jones at [jenny.jones@jessamine.kyschools.us](mailto:jenny.jones@jessamine.kyschools.us) or 859-881-7108
- \* Act now to **make a plan** for your family as to what will happen if school is dismissed early. Discuss this plan, including alternate transportation, with your child. Communicate now with the school about individuals who are authorized to pick up your child, including in the case of early dismissal. If your child will ride the bus, make a plan for what to do if your child arrives at home before you do.

### **Help keep our students healthy!**

- \* Please ensure that your child is **dressed appropriately** for the bus wait every morning. Dressing in layers and covering the hands, feet and ears will help your child stay warm.
- \* **Flu season is here!** If your child is running a fever, coughing, complaining of a sore throat or exhibiting other flu-like symptoms, please contact your family physician and follow your doctor’s instructions on school attendance.
- \* **Hand washing** is one of the best methods of protection from the spread of the flu virus and other communicable diseases. Wash hands in warm, soapy water for 15-20 seconds.
- \* Teach your child to **cover coughs and sneezes** with his/her arm or a tissue. You can also help prevent the spread of illness by encouraging your child to avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth as much as possible and to wash hands or use hand sanitizer after these types of contact.

While the cold weather season does present some challenges, it also brings blessings of family gatherings, time with friends and a renewed spirit of gratitude and generosity. Please accept

my most sincere wishes for a holiday season filled with peace, love, and joy.



**Jessamine  
County  
Schools**