

Pirate Policies

Student Drivers and School Closings

STUDENT DRIVING PRIVILEGES AND DRIVING PERMITS

All licensed students have the privilege to drive to school and park in the student parking lot at Merrillville High School.

This privilege has many responsibilities. Parents and students need to be aware of the driving rules and regulations at Merrillville High School, which are outlined in the student handbook (Pirate Planner). Our driving rules have changed a bit this year and it is imperative that the following procedures are followed or a "MHS Parking Permit" will not be issued.

First and foremost, parking permits for the 2011-2012 school year may be purchased during Re-Registration days (August 9 & 10 5:30-7:30 p.m.)

All students who want to drive to school must consent to participate in the school's random drug testing program and sign the consent form/driver's agreement.

The permit cost is \$10.00. Please keep in mind that the administration at Merrillville High School has the right to revoke these driving privileges. It is also an Indiana State Law that any student who has been suspended from school two (2) times can have their Indiana Driver's License suspended by the State of Indiana.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS

Weather conditions can delay the opening of school for one or two hours or can call for an all-day cancellation. With this in mind, we are asking parents to please plan for these types of emergencies. REMEMBER, IF SCHOOL IS DELAYED FOR ONE (1) HOUR, THE BUS WILL PICK STUDENTS UP ONE (1) HOUR LATER; FOR A TWO (2) HOUR DELAY, THE BUS WILL BE THERE TWO (2) HOURS LATER. It is the goal of our school corporation to transport students and have our students arrive and leave school under the safest conditions. Also, please keep in mind that if school is cancelled for a day, it will be made up at a later date.

When severe weather hits Merrillville, there are a few ways to find out if our school is delayed or closed.

1. Early dismissals, late starts & school closings will also be reported on these local radio stations: WZVN-107 FM, WJOB-1230 AM, WAKE-1500 AM; Chicago radio stations: WGN-720 AM & WBBM-780 AM, & TV stations WYIN (Channel 56 or Cable 17), CBS (Channel 2); News Channel 5; ABC (Channel 7), WGN (Channel 9); FOX (Channel 32 or Cable 6), & CLTV News (Cable 31).
2. Visit web sites including: www.cancellations.com & www.emergencyclosings.com
3. Call the Emergency Closing Center to check the status of school closings at 1-900-407-SNOW (1-900-407-7669) and enter the school corporation's main number, 219-650-5300, for the latest information.
4. This information will also be posted on the MHS homepage at: <http://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/mhs>
5. Call MHS as a last resort as lines may be busy.