



# South Lake Elementary School

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<http://web.montgomeryschoolmd.org/schools/southlakes/>

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## INCLEMENT WEATHER

### To All South Lake Parents:

Montgomery County Public Schools has provided every school with information regarding inclement weather procedures provided for parents/guardians in this newsletter. Please read carefully to ensure that you and your family have a plan in place for when weather conditions cause schools to have a delayed opening, to close early, or to close for the entire day.

### Closure of School

When schools are closed system wide, all instructional programs and extracurricular activities in schools are canceled. Private day-care providers in school buildings may elect to stay open if the schools are closed but the administrative offices are open. In extreme conditions administrative offices also may be closed. If this occurs, private day care programs located in schools are closed as well.

### Delayed Opening

A **delayed opening** means that schools open **two hours later than scheduled**. All buses operate on the same delayed schedule and, therefore, **the pick-times are two hours later than normal**. When elementary schools open on a delayed schedule, the following programs are canceled - Morning sessions of pre-kindergarten and other specialized programs or field trips are canceled. Activities that begin after 10:30 a.m. will be held as scheduled.

Afternoon sessions of pre-

kindergarten begin the regular time. Full-day Head Start follows the schedule of other Full day programs. Parents should continue to **check for radio, television, or Web announcements** in the event a decision to delay the opening of school is reconsidered and a decision to close schools for the day is made (by 7:00 a.m.).

### Early Dismissal

An **early dismissal** means that schools will close **2.5 hours earlier than scheduled**. At South Lake ES, the time for early dismissal would be 12:35 p.m. All busses operate on that same early schedule and, therefore **drop-off times are 2.5 hours earlier than normal**.

When elementary schools close early, afternoon pre-kindergarten is canceled, as well as any special programs or field trips. Morning pre-kindergarten students will be dismissed at 10:30 a.m. Full day Head Start classes will dismiss with regular K-5 students.

### Public Announcements

Information about school operations is announced publicly as soon as possible on area radio and television stations, Montgomery County Public Schools Cable TV (Comcast Channel 34, Verizon FIOS Channel 36, RCN channel 89), Outlook, on the Internet at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org), and on a recorded telephone message at 301-279-3673. South Lake ES will also send a message to your home contact phone number on file at school. Emergency e-mail announcements are available by signing up for MCPS QuickNotes on the school system's home page. If schools are closed or delayed, the announcement is made by 5:00 a.m. (or the night before when possible).

If schools are closing early, the announcement is made by 11:00 a.m.

### Emergency Weather Contingency Plan

An emergency weather contingency plan will add student instructional days to the end of the scheduled school year, if schools are closed more than four days because of weather emergencies. The planned school year for students ends on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. However, if schools are closed for more than four days due to weather emergencies, the following schedule would extend the school year for necessary make-up days.

If schools are closed:

- 5 days—extended to June 17th
- 6 days—extended to June 18th
- 7 days—extended to June 21st
- 8 days—extended to June 22nd
- 9 days—extended to June 23rd

### Weather Condition Decisions

The school system uses a variety of sources of information to determine whether to close schools, delay the opening of schools, or dismiss schools early. These sources include actual physical inspection of road and school conditions by transportation officials and other staff at areas throughout the county, and an analysis of independent reports from the National Weather Service, Accu-Weather, and the news media. The most severe weather conditions within the county are used as the basis for decision making. Consistent procedures are maintained in order to respond quickly to emergency weather conditions and protect the safety of students.

Fall



### IMPORTANT DATES

October 17, 2009  
Md State Teachers Convention -  
**NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
AND TEACHERS**

October 19, 2009  
St. Jude Mathathon begins

October 20, 27, & Nov. 3, 2009  
After-school clubs—3:10 - 4:10  
p.m. for selected students in  
grades 3-5

October 27, 2009  
Reading/Technology Family  
Night—6:30 - 8:00 p.m. featuring  
"Sprokit the Robot"

October 30, 2009  
First Marking Period Ends

November 2, 2009  
Professional Day for Teachers  
**NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

November 3, 2009  
PTA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. in Media  
Center

November 5, 2009  
Washington Performing Arts  
Society assemblies:  
Grades 3-5 @ 9:30 a.m.  
Grades Pre-K-2 @ 10:15 a.m.

November 6, 2009  
"Make-Up" Picture Day for  
photo retakes and students ab-  
sent on the first picture day  
PTA Movie Night - 6:30 p.m. in  
APR