

Transportation/Busing Instructions for Delays and Closings

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

This pertains to delay and closings due to WEATHER related incidents ONLY.

CLOSINGS: If Pope John High School is closed for ANY reason (weather and non weather), you will be notified by the automated HONEYWELL INSTANT ALERT message system.

You may sign up here: <https://instantalert.honeywell.com/>

In addition, an announcement will be made on our website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. The links and usernames to those pages are as follows:

Website: www.popejohn.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/popejohnlions/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PopeJohnLions>

Instagram: @popejohnlions

DELAYS: Because Pope John High School buses students from so many districts, we consider the school either **OPEN** or **CLOSED**: Pope John is never independently delayed.

- **First, Please refrain from calling Pope John or the bus companies to inquire about delays/closings:** we cannot answer high volume calls, and we must keep the phone lines free for your children's and our staff's safety.
- **Second, please refrain from waiting outside the school or entering the school and inquiring about a possible early dismissal.** We are in constant contact with the bus contractors and police departments and are therefore aware of roadway conditions; again, we make decisions to protect your child based on the professionals' information.
 - Regarding early dismissals: We strongly recommend each student who is assigned a bus pass take the bus at least ONE time prior to bad weather so they can identify their bus when early dismissals by the sending districts are called. We have had a large amount of students coming to the office asking for their bus assignments in the past two years. It is the students' responsibility to know which bus they are assigned to.
- **Instead, please listen to the pertinent radio station for school delays/closings and/or consult the station's website list of delayed/closed schools.**
- **General rule of thumb: follow the broadcast information for your school district.** For instance, if Sparta schools are delayed by 90 minutes, the bus will pick up your child 90 minutes past the normally schedule pick up time; likewise, if Hopatcong is delayed by 60 minutes, the bus will pick up your child 60 minutes later than normal. Exceptions/special directions are embedded in the list below and are always attached to your bus passes when sent in the summer.
- **EXCEPTION:** If a district is closed/delayed for non-weather related issues, ie. district building or bus issues, Pope John's bus service will remain on time.
- **Drivers:** Juniors and Seniors who drive and underclassmen who are regularly driven to school must be in school by 9:00am if their district is delayed.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS BY DISTRICT BELOW:

Allamuchy/Great Meadows/Hackettstown (Allamuchy Beavers and Hackettstown Hornets) will follow the Allamuchy H.S. delay/closing schedule regardless of other district schedules. If Allamuchy is closed – these routes will NOT run. If Hackettstown or Great Meadows is closed, but Allamuchy is open – these routes WILL run.

Andover will follow Andover delay/closing schedule. Parent's should tune into WSUS and News Channel 12, you can also check the Andover Regional District website. (Please note: Andover does not have an Instant Alert system our parents can join.)

Byram/Lenape Valley will follow Byram delay/closing schedule regardless of Lenape Valley schedule; even if Lenape Valley has a 2-hour delay, Pope John students must follow Byram's 90-minute delay. (Route R-54 will also follow Sparta for delays – If Byram is delayed and Sparta is NOT, this route will follow the BYRAM delay. If Sparta is delayed and Byram is NOT, this route will follow the SPARTA delay. If both schools are on a delay, this route will follow the LONGER of the two delays).

Dover/Denville/Morristown (Denville/Dover/Rockaway Raccoons) will follow Morris Hills H.S. for delay/closing schedule regardless of other district schedules. If Dover is closed but Morris Hills is open – this route WILL run. *For those that ride the train, please also sign up for NJ Transit Alerts for train delays here:

https://www.njtransit.com/mt/mt_servlet.srv?hdnPageAction=MTRegisterTo

Green will follow Green Township delay/closing schedule. (Route R-34 will also follow Sparta for delays – If Green is delayed and Sparta is NOT, this route will follow the GREEN delay. If Sparta is delayed and Green is NOT, this route will follow the SPARTA delay. If both schools are on a delay, this route will follow the LONGER of the two delays).

High Point Wallkill (Routes HP-1, HP-2, HP-3 & HP-4):

HP-1: If High Point Regional H.S. is closed – this route will NOT run. If High Point is on a delay – this route will run 2 HOURS LATER than the scheduled time.

HP-2: If High Point Regional H.S. is closed – this route will NOT run. If High Point is on a delay – this route will run 2 HOURS LATER than the scheduled time.

HP-4: If Wallkill is closed – this route will NOT run. If Wallkill is on a delay – this route will run 2 HOURS LATER than the scheduled time. SPARTA students: PLEASE follow Wallkill AND Sparta, but note: if Sparta is delayed and Wallkill isn't, the bus will run on a regular schedule. If Wallkill is delayed and Sparta isn't the Sparta Kids can wait for the 2-hour delay or get their own ride into school.

Hope/Blairstown (Blairstown Bears) will follow North Warren delay/closing schedule

Hopatcong will follow Hopatcong delay/closing schedule (Route R-31 will also follow Sparta for delays – If Hopatcong is delayed and Sparta is NOT, this route will follow the HOPATCONG delay. If Sparta is delayed and Hopatcong is NOT, this route will follow the SPARTA delay. If both schools are on a delay, this route will follow the LONGER of the two delays).

Jefferson Township (Routes JP-01, JP-02) will follow Jefferson Township delay/closing schedule as well as Sparta delay schedule. If Jefferson is closed and Sparta is open – Jefferson students will NOT be picked up. If Jefferson is delayed and Sparta is NOT, this route will follow the JEFFERSON delay. If Sparta is delayed and Jefferson is NOT, this route will follow the SPARTA delay. If both schools are on a delay, this route will follow the LONGER of the two delays.

Kittatinny District (Fredon, Hampton, Sandyston, Stillwater) will follow Kittatinny H.S. delay/closing schedule

Mendham/Chester students who ride ROXBURY BUS will follow Roxbury district for delay/closing schedule

Montague will follow Montague Elementary delay/closing schedule

Mt. Olive students who ride the MT. OLIVE BUS (Budd Lake Whales) will follow Mt. Olive district for delay/closing schedule

Mt. Olive students who ride the ROXBURY BUS (Roxbury Robbins) will follow Roxbury district for delay/closing schedule

Newton will follow Newton H.S. delay/closing schedule (Route R-12 will also follow Sparta – If Newton is on a delay and Sparta is NOT, this route will follow the NEWTON delay. If Sparta is on a delay and Newton is NOT, this route will follow the SPARTA delay. If both districts are on a delay, this route will follow the LONGER of the two).

N. Warren Cluster will follow N. Warren Cluster delay/closing schedule

Paterson students will follow Pope John schedule ONLY.

Roxbury students who ride ROXBURY BUSES will follow Roxbury district for delay/closing schedule

Roxbury students who ride the MT. OLIVE BUS (Budd Lake Whales) will follow Mt. Olive district for delay/closing schedule

Sparta will follow Sparta High School delay/closing schedule

NO OUTSIDE DISTRICTS FOLLOW THE SPARTA H.S. SCHEDULE EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING ROUTES:

JP-01, JP-02, R-12, R-31, R-34, R-54

Again, You will follow your district as well as Sparta for delay schedule. If your district is on a delay and Sparta is NOT, your route will follow your district delay. If Sparta is on a delay and your district is NOT, your route will follow the Sparta delay. If both districts are on a delay, your route will follow the LONGER of the two delays.

Vernon students will follow Vernon district for delay/closing.

W. Milford (Peacocks) students will follow W. Milford district for delay/closing.