



Two-Hour Late Start Option Frequently Asked Questions

In District 65, our first priority is the safety of our students and staff. In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances, District 65 leadership may enact a **two-hour** late start as an alternative to closing schools for the entire day. Please see the below frequently asked questions to better understand the impact to the school day.

Under what circumstances may district leadership decide to enact a late start?

Several years ago District 65 implemented a 90-minute late start option as an alternative to closing schools for an entire day. This year, the decision was made to change to a **two-hour** late start. District 65 leadership will use this option, when appropriate, in place of a full cancellation when weather and road conditions are expected to improve throughout the morning hours.

When will the school day begin?

The school day will begin **two hours** after the regular start time. In the event of a late start, scheduled start times are as follows:

Magnet schools will start at 10am
Middle schools will start at 10:30am
Elementary schools will start at 11:05am
Park School will begin at 11:05am

Please see the following FAQs for changes to early childhood programs.

When will the Family Center open?

The Doorway to Learning program will begin at 9:30am.

Will early childhood programs still be in session?

In the event of a late start, all *morning half-day* classes at the JEH Early Childhood Center will be cancelled. JEH *afternoon half-day* classes will be in session and begin at their regularly scheduled time. JEH *full-day* classes will begin at 10am, two-hours later than the regular start time.

JEH Early Childhood Transportation

Transportation for *full-day* classes will be provided two-hours later, following the same route timing intervals. Transportation for *half-day* afternoon sessions will be available for families as regularly scheduled.

Will before-school events and programs be cancelled?

Yes, all scheduled before-school events, including child care programs, will be cancelled.

Can I still drop my child off at the regular start time?

In the event of a late start, District 65 schools and centers will open two hours after their regular start time. While we understand a late start may pose childcare issues, families should not drop their children off prior to the adjusted start time as there will not be adequate supervision.

Will student transportation still be provided?

Yes, all buses and district-provided methods of transportation will operate and pick-up children two hours after the regularly scheduled pick-up time. For example, if a child's pick-up time on a regular school day is 8:10am, they should be at their stop at 10:10am on a late start day. Delays may be possible in times of inclement weather.

Will transportation be provided for students that attend school outside of District 65?

Yes, transportation will be provided for students that attend school out-of-district if that school is in session.

Will there be childcare through the district's school age child care program?

There will be no morning school age childcare on late start days; however, afternoon school age childcare will be in session.

Will breakfast be provided?

Given the proximity between the adjusted start time and lunch, breakfast will not be served at elementary, middle, and magnet schools. A "grab and go" breakfast will be available for students who may need something to eat prior to lunch.

Breakfast will be provided at Park School and at the JEH Early Childhood Center.

What is the school schedule for the day?

Additional information regarding specific scheduling will be forthcoming from your building principal. In elementary and magnet schools, students will proceed to their homeroom or the first period of the day. In the middle schools, students will report to the appropriate period class and classes will be the same duration as usual. The first classes of the day will be skipped on a late start day.

Will lunch schedules be affected?

No, lunch will be served at the regular time in all schools. For most schools, this may mean that lunch is served at the very beginning of the adjusted school day. Lunch counts will be based on the previous day's attendance. Selection of some lunch items may be limited.

What if my child normally takes medication at school in the morning?

If the school nurse administers daily medication within the first two hours of a normal school day, medication should be given to your child prior to arriving to school.

When will schools dismiss?

All schools will dismiss at their regular time with no extension. The school day is simply two hours shorter.

Are after-school programs and evening events cancelled?

No, all after-school programs and evening events will follow their regular schedule, unless otherwise communicated.

What if my child attends math class at ETHS or another District 65 school?

Math class will be cancelled for elementary students that go to a District 65 middle school for morning instruction. Students should go directly to their home school at the adjusted start time.

In the event that District 65 has enacted a late start and ETHS classes are still in session, transportation will not be provided back to District 65 schools. Students may still attend class; however, it is the family's responsibility to make transportation arrangements.

Does a late start count as a full day of attendance for students?

Late start days count as a full day of attendance for students and staff and therefore do not need to be made up using Emergency Days.

How will the district inform the community of a late start?

In the event of an unscheduled school closing or late start, District 65 will notify the community in the following ways:

- Automated phone call, email, and text message
- District 65 Website – www.district65.net
- District 65 Mobile App (push notification)
- District 65 Facebook page – www.facebook.com/evanstonkokieschooldistrict65
- District 65 Twitter page – www.twitter.com/district65
- Emergency Closing Center – www.emergencyclosings.com
- Local newspapers and Chicagoland television and radio stations