



## CANCELLATION OF CLASSES – STANDARD PROCEDURE

As of January 1, 2019, the German International School Washington D.C. (GISW) follows the publicly announced decisions by the Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) system when it comes to school closings/delays with few deviations.

- MCPS “School Closed” = GISW Plan A → School Closed
- MCPS “2 Hour Delay” = GISW Plan B → GISW will have a 1 hour and 45 minutes delay, **NOT** 2 full hours. School begins for everyone from Preschool through Grade 12 at **9:55am**.
- MCPS “Unscheduled Early Dismissal” = GISW Plan C → Unscheduled Early Dismissal at **1:45pm**.
- GISW also has an additional “Plan D” → Unscheduled Early Dismissal at **3:10pm**. This will be implemented at the discretion of the Head of School, should a situation put our students/staff at risk.

**If you have a child in preschool**, please disregard any preschool-specific decisions from Montgomery County. At the GISW the preschool follows the delay and closing decision for Montgomery County grades K through 12.

**If you have a child in 12<sup>th</sup> grade**, please note: In case GISW is closed on a day when a written Abitur exam is scheduled, the exam will be rescheduled.

### Important details regarding bus schedules and other procedures:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY	GISW PLAN	INFORMATION
<p><b>Schools closed</b> (Montgomery County makes announcement by 5:00 am or the night before.) <b>MoCo color code:</b> orange/red</p>	<p><b>PLAN A:</b></p>	<p><b>All classes are cancelled. *</b></p>

<p><b>2 hour delay</b> (Montgomery County makes announcement by 5:00 am or the night before. At 7:00 am, depending on weather conditions, there may be an updated decision by Montgomery County to keep all schools closed.) <b>MoCo color code:</b> yellow</p>	<p><b>PLAN B:</b></p>	<p><b>Class Schedules:</b> Classes during first and second periods are cancelled. All classes for grade levels SEL through grade 12 start at <b>9:55 am</b> with regularly scheduled third period classes. Please note that Montgomery County’s 2-hour delay translates into a 1 hour and 45 minute delay at GISW.</p> <p><b>Preschool:</b> Preschool starts at <b>9:55 am</b>. Both the Afternoon Program and Extended Care take place as regularly scheduled.</p> <p><b>Front desk in Main Building:</b> The receptionist is available starting at <b>9 am</b>.</p> <p><b>Lunch Break:</b> Lunch Break takes place in accordance with the regular schedule.</p> <p><b>School Bus: In the morning,</b> all school buses follow the <b>Plan B Bus Schedule</b>—1 hour and 45 minutes later than usual. <b>In the afternoon,</b> school buses will depart the school at <b>3:20 pm</b> and <b>4:55 pm</b>.</p> <p><b>Pick-Up at School:</b> Students need to be picked up in accordance with their regular schedule of classes.</p> <p><b>Extended Care:</b> Extended Care will take place.</p> <p><b>Afternoon and Evening Activities:</b> All afternoon and evening events take place as scheduled. Please stay alert for emails and/or information on the website at <a href="http://www.giswashington.org">www.giswashington.org</a> in case road conditions worsen towards the evening.</p>
<p><b>Early Dismissal – 1:45pm</b> (Montgomery County makes announcement by 11:00 am.) <b>MoCo color code:</b> blue</p>	<p><b>PLAN C:</b></p>	<p><b>Early Dismissal:</b> Classes end at <b>1:45 pm</b> for all due to predictable difficulties (e. g. increasing snow fall, power outages, etc.). The Preschool also closes at <b>1:45 pm</b>.</p> <p><b>Lunch Break:</b> Lunch Break takes place in accordance with the regular schedule.</p> <p><b>School Bus:</b> School buses depart the school at 1:55 pm. The bus follows the <b>Plan C Bus Schedule</b>.</p> <p>Students who are usually picked up by car <b>must be picked up at the school as soon as possible – by 1:55 pm</b>.</p> <p><b>Extended Care:</b> Under Plan C, Extended Care will <b>NOT</b> take place.</p> <p><b>Afternoon and Evening Activities:</b> All afternoon and evening events are <b>cancelled</b> unless they are held online. Please watch for emails and/or information on the website at <a href="http://www.giswashington.org">www.giswashington.org</a>.</p>

<p><b>Early Dismissal – 3:10pm</b> There is no Montgomery County equivalent. (Announcement made by 1:00 pm by GISW)</p>	<p><b>PLAN D:</b></p>	<p><b>Early Dismissal:</b> All classes end after 8<sup>th</sup> period and the preschool closes at <b>3:10 pm</b> should the Head of School deem a situation puts students and staff at risk.</p> <p><b>School Bus:</b> The school bus leaves at <b>3:20 pm</b>, taking the same route and stops as the one that leaves after the 8th period every day. There will be <b>NO</b> later bus service.</p> <p>Students who are usually picked up by car must be picked up by car at the school <b>as soon as possible – at the latest by 4:15 pm.</b></p> <p><b>Extended Care:</b> Under Plan D, Extended Care will <b>NOT</b> take place.</p> <p><b>Afternoon and Evening Activities:</b> All afternoon and evening events are cancelled unless they are held online. Please watch for emails and/or information on the website at <a href="http://www.giswashington.org">www.giswashington.org</a>.</p>
---	-----------------------	---

\* School will switch to online learning after 5 missed days of classes.

*It is up to parents to make the final decision regarding school attendance on a day with inclement weather conditions. If you feel the weather is too severe, you have the right to excuse your child from class and keep your child(ren) home. Likewise, if you are concerned about poor weather that has developed during the day, you may make arrangements to pick up your child. Please make sure to communicate your decision with the appropriate school authorities.*

SOURCES OF INFORMATION	INFORMATION
<p><b>SchoolMessenger</b></p>	<p>In case of an unforeseen event that causes classes to be cancelled, parents and employees of the GISW receive alert notifications in German and English through <i>SchoolMessenger</i> by text message and/or email. All families who have children at the GISW and all GISW employees are enrolled in this service automatically at no charge. If you have not yet received a text message from the school, please make sure Ms. Wagner (<a href="mailto:mail@giswashington.org">mail@giswashington.org</a>) has your current US cell phone number and <b>then simply text "Y" or "YES" to this short code: 67587.</b> &gt; <a href="#">Flyer: Simple instructions to receive text messages from the school.</a></p>
<p><b>Internet</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.wtop.com">www.wtop.com</a> <a href="http://www.giswashington.org">www.giswashington.org</a></p>
<p><b>Local TV and radio stations</b></p>	<p>You may also want to follow closing information for Montgomery County Public Schools on TV and on the radio. In case of Plan A, B, and C, the same decision that Montgomery County makes will apply to GISW.</p> <p>Plan D is specific to GISW and will <b>ONLY</b> be announced through WTOP, <a href="http://www.giswashington.org">www.giswashington.org</a> and SchoolMessenger.</p>