

**BETHANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**44 Peck Road, Bethany, Connecticut 06524**



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**Superintendent of Schools**

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September 1, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

In order to assure the safety and well being of our students and staff, we have been carefully monitoring the track of Hurricane Earl over the past few days using multiple sources and will continue to do so. At this point in time, most storm models predict that Hurricane Earl will pass just east of the New England coastline in the afternoon hours of Friday, September 3. Its affect on the Connecticut shoreline may be strong winds and heavy rain depending on the track of the storm. Conversely in this area of Connecticut we may experience very few storm related issues. It is undoubtedly too early to know, however, it is not too early to prepare.

If, on Thursday evening or Friday morning, it appears that the timing of the storm is the same but the track of the storm has moved it farther west creating a greater impact on us, there is a chance that school would be dismissed early on Friday. If the timing and track of the storm changes more dramatically, resulting in more of a direct hit on our area, there is the possibility that school may be closed on Friday.

Our eNotify system will be used again this year to disseminate information quickly and efficiently. It has been updated with additional parent/guardian email information and it is very likely that continued information on the storm and our response to this weather event will be transmitted via this system as well as through the usual media outlets.

If there is a need to close school on Friday, that information will be broadcast by 5:30 a.m. on WTNH Channel 8, WVIT Channel 30 and logged on to [www.ctweather.com](http://www.ctweather.com). Nearly all radio stations now get that information from television stations. We will also send the information out via eNotify and post the information on our website at [www.bethany-ed.org](http://www.bethany-ed.org). If there is a need to schedule an early dismissal, that decision will be made by 10:30 a.m. on Friday. It will be called into the aforementioned television stations, logged on to [www.ctweather.com](http://www.ctweather.com) transmitted to you via the eNotify system and posted on our website.

I am hopeful that we will not have to close school or schedule an early dismissal but I wanted you to be prepared for the possibility. We usually do not send out our BOWA School Advisory until late fall so this is a bit unusual. With any luck the storm will pass farther to the east, if not we will be prepared to act accordingly. Have an enjoyable and safe holiday weekend.

Sincerely,

*Timothy F. Connellan*

Timothy F. Connellan, Superintendent