

School Closings - Tough Call

As winter approaches so does the potential of school delays and closings due to dangerous driving conditions. The decision to delay or close school is typically not easy to make. There are many factors that must be considered, including:

- **Local forecasts** • **Temperature** • **Timing**
- **Condition of roads and streets**
- **Condition of school parking lots and sidewalks**

When there is a forecast for the possibility of snow and/or freezing rain, weather reports are monitored closely for information on the severity and timing of precipitation. A decision on whether to delay or close has to be made by 5:30 am to prevent any of our buses from beginning their routes. You can imagine how winter weather can change over the course of just a few hours in the morning. Prior to 5:30 am, a group of dedicated staff members drive our roads and streets. They confer often, providing input on the conditions. We are also in communication with city and state snowplow drivers and other local school districts. Eventually, our school superintendent makes a final call on delaying or closing schools.

Once a decision is made to delay or cancel school, communication channels begin broadcasting the information. Information is posted on our web site, radio and TV stations, and a text message is sent to School Messenger (our parent notification system). **Please contact your child's school if you need to enroll or change your School Messenger information.**



TRANSITIONS TO NEW SCHOOLS

Students and staff at both **Lebanon Junior High School and Berry Intermediate School** have an exciting second semester awaiting them. When students leave for winter break in December, they will be leaving behind their current buildings and return to school in January in a new place.

Students attending Lebanon Junior High School will return to school at the new junior high building and students attending Berry will return to school at the old junior high building. Of course, all of this moving is part of the facility construction process approved by voters in 2013.

5th and 6th grade students will be housed in the old junior high building until a complete renovation of Berry Intermediate School is completed in 2018. School Superintendent Todd Yohey said, "Moving two schools over a period of two weeks is a challenge. However, good planning and cooperation from our staff will result in a smooth transition. The renovated Berry Intermediate will be the 'light at the end of a tunnel!' This is an effort that the community will be proud of and we are thankful for their support."



Where Are They Now?

Tom Russell is a 1974 graduate of Lebanon High School. During his high school years he was involved in stagecraft, art club, prom court and student council. He earned five varsity letters and all-league recognition while playing football and baseball.



After graduation, Tom attended Ohio Northern University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Art Education. He continued to play football at ONU until a knee injury and surgery sidelined him his freshman year. He completed his graduate work in the area of Special Education and Severe Behavior Handicap from the University of Dayton.

He started teaching and coaching in Eastern Ohio and spent two years at Bethany College coaching football. He eventually returned to Lebanon where he taught Art and Special Education and coached basketball, baseball, football and golf. He, along with three other teachers developed the Connections program at the high school, which earned several awards at the state and local level. This program is still a success today. Outside of the classroom, he took on roles such as: District Art Coordinator, LEA officer, Special Ed. Department Chair, New Teacher Mentor and advisor for the Lebanon Chapter of Future Teachers of America.

Tom retired from teaching in 2014, after 35 years in education. He, along with his wife, Pam, also a Lebanon graduate and retired teacher, reside in Lebanon with their two daughters. Ali is a recent LHS grad attending Miami University-Middletown and Katie is a junior at LHS. Tom and his wife were both inducted into the Lebanon City Schools Hall of Fame in 2015. Currently, Tom is employed at LCNB, continues to help coach the girl's golf team, and broadcasts football, basketball, and softball games on the local cable channel 6.

WE  **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**

Lebanon City Schools is currently hiring substitute teachers.

You do not need to have a teaching degree to be a substitute, just a bachelor's degree and a substitute license. It's a great position for those looking for flexible schedules! Please refer to the online info below or contact Robert Buskirk @ 934-5776 for further information!

Apply online at LebanonSchools.org. Click News tab on home page.

Calendar Corner - December

District Spirit Day - Friday, December 2
Berry Intermediate & LJHS Band Concerts - December 8
Lebanon High School Winter Concert - December 11
Berry Intermediate & LJHS Choir Concerts - December 12
No School - Winter Break - December 19 - January 2

Check Out Complete Calendar Online - <https://goo.gl/qERDqv>

Social Media Contact

Twitter: LHS: @OnwardLebanon LJHS: @The_Mr_Dalton
 LHS Athletics: @LHSAD BIS: @berrywarriors56
 Mr. Yohey: @LebanonStrong

Instagram: lcs_bc