



## The Music Settlement

September 5, 2017

The Music Settlement's administrative team would like to remind all of our clients, parents, and students of our snow and emergency closing procedures. We know our decision to close in poor weather or emergency situations has an effect on families. We also believe that our clients and students benefit by being in classes, lessons, or sessions. We will balance these factors with aspects of client, student, and staff safety when it comes to decisions regarding school closing.

### **Snow and Emergency Closing Information**

While our goal is to have as many individuals as possible on campus when we are open, the management of The Music Settlement realizes that some clients, students, and staff live a significant distance from campus. Consequently, the administration does not expect individuals to place themselves in a dangerous situation to arrive here. We encourage you to use your best judgment in deciding whether it is safe to travel when confronted with severe weather.

### **How are Clients, Students and Parents Notified?**

- Visiting our website at [www.TheMusicSettlement.org](http://www.TheMusicSettlement.org)
- Registering to receive an automated email alert by entering your email in the "Sign Up for Our Email Newsletter" box on our home page ([www.TheMusicSettlement.org](http://www.TheMusicSettlement.org)) and clicking "Closure Notices" in the Constant Contact options on the next screen
- Checking our Facebook ([www.facebook.com/TheMusicSettlement](http://www.facebook.com/TheMusicSettlement)) and Twitter ([@MusicSettlement](https://twitter.com/MusicSettlement)) pages
- Tuning to WKYC-TV 3, WEWS-TV 5, WOIO-Action News, WJW-FOX 8.  
We will be listed under "T" for "The Music Settlement" on most media sites

*Despite all of these opportunities, it is ultimately, however, the clients and students' responsibility to know if school is open or closed.*

### **How Do We Make Our Decision?**

Our decision to open or close The Music Settlement in poor weather is based on an analysis of factors:

- **Information on road conditions from transportation departments.** We consider all of the roads in the community. Even if your street or road looks clear, travel elsewhere may be dangerous.
- **Amount of snow and ice accumulated and predicted duration of any precipitation.**
- **Temperature and wind chill are a separate consideration.** We base our decision to open/close or modify our daily schedule through an analysis of road conditions, extreme temperatures or wind chills, and winter advisories and warnings from the National Weather Service (NWS).
- **Building and parking lot conditions.** We confirm that we have heat, electricity, and water, and confer with maintenance staff members who are responsible for clearing and treating our parking lots and sidewalks.

- **What other school districts are doing.** We share information among schools as part of the decision making process, but also recognize that our situation differs from the districts in several distinct ways that may lead to our being open when others choose to close.
- **Safety and Security of our Clients, Students, and Staff.** In the rare case of an emergency closing, we hold our clients, students, and staff in the highest regard.

### **When is the Decision Made?**

We make every effort to make our decision the night before or by 5:45 a.m. the day of, in order to contact administrators, post the decision on our website and social media accounts, and notify the media. This means that information on school closings or delays should be available between 6:00 and 6:30 a.m. We also will consider delayed or partial openings or early closings as predicated by the conditions. Although we strive to do our absolute best in this process, we know that no perfect system exists for all involved. If you do not feel as though it is safe for you or your child to attend class, lessons, or sessions, please use your best judgment.