



New Horizons Community Charter School

# NEW HORIZONS COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICE

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** NHCCS Staff, Students, and Families  
**FROM:** Rhonda E. Wilson, Chief School Administrator  
**CC:** Tom Omwega, School Business Administrator  
Dr. Stephen Webb, Principal  
Dr. Shannon Crowell-Edghill, Vice Principal  
**DATE:** January 25, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** School Closing Due to Weather Conditions

Dear Staff, Students, and Families of New Horizons Community Charter School,

Due to the ongoing and severe winter weather affecting Essex County, New Jersey, we want to share the latest conditions, a school closure, and essential safety information.

### Weather Today – Sunday, January 25, 2026:

A significant winter storm system has moved into our region, bringing heavy snow, sleet, and a wintry mix throughout the day. Snow has been falling steadily across Essex County with temperatures well below freezing, and accumulation continues to make travel hazardous. Snow and sleet are expected through the afternoon, with winds creating potentially difficult road and sidewalk conditions. Projected total snow and sleet accumulations are between 8 and 12 inches. Light freezing rain ice may occur late this evening into tonight with isolated wind gusts around 35 miles per hour this afternoon and evening.

### Weather Outlook – Monday, January 26, 2026:

Forecasts indicate that the wintry conditions will continue through Monday morning into early afternoon, with additional snow and mixed precipitation possible before gradually tapering off. The National Weather Service and local forecasts predict total snow accumulations this weekend into Monday could range widely but may reach significant levels, with potential impacts on travel, visibility, and road conditions. Temperatures will remain very cold, with low wind chill.

Due to these conditions, **school will be closed on Monday, January 26, 2026**, to keep our students, staff, and families safe. There is a possibility of **additional school closures** and delayed openings during the week beyond Monday, so stay tuned for further notifications.

As you prepare for continued winter conditions, please follow these important safety tips:

***Stay Indoors Unless Absolutely Necessary.....***

Only travel outside if it is absolutely essential. Road and walkway conditions are hazardous due to snow and ice. If you must go out, dress in warm, layered clothing, hats, gloves, and sturdy boots.

***If Travel Cannot Be Avoided.....***

Avoid unnecessary travel. If you must drive, reduce speed, increase following distance, and be prepared for slick road surfaces. Keep your vehicle winter-ready with a charged mobile device, flashlight, blankets, and emergency supplies.

***Safety at Home.....***

Charge electronic devices and have extra blankets available. Power outages are possible during heavy snow and intense winds.

Use space heaters and generators safely — never operate them indoors or in enclosed spaces such as garages. Ensure carbon monoxide detectors are functioning to prevent poisoning.

Check on relatives, neighbors, or friends who may need assistance, especially older adults or those with health concerns.

***Children and Outdoor Play.....***

Limit children's exposure outside. Prolonged time in extreme cold can lead to frostbite or hypothermia. Dress children in layers to keep them warm and dry.

***Community Awareness.....***

Help clear snow from sidewalks around your home and keep a path open to fire hydrants. Avoid pushing snow into roadways.

We appreciate your attention and cooperation as we navigate this challenging weather event. Your safety and well-being are our top priorities. Please continue to monitor local weather updates and school communications for any further changes. There is a possibility for additional school closures and delayed openings during the week beyond Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Stay safe and warm!