

# Text Messaging Now Available for Urgent Information

November 6, 2009

D-38 has added text messaging to the communication options for our families, staff, students, and public. The District will send urgent and emergency notifications to cell phones by request. There is no charge to the recipient, **except any normal text messaging or data charges** in individual phone service plans. Text messaging will make it easier for families, students and staff to receive important news when they are not near a computer to receive emails. To sign up for the service, visit the D-38 web site and follow the links under the "news" tab. Users must provide an email address, to which text messages will also be copied. Each user account may register up to two cell phone numbers.

## **Notes:**

**Charges:** The only charges to the message recipient are those incurred by the individual user's cell phone service plan. Check with your service provider if you are unsure of possible costs.

**Speed:** In most cases, mass text messages are sent to all users very quickly. In some instances, individual cellular service providers may delay the delivery of messages depending on call volume and other factors. D-38 does not control the speed at which messages are sent out.

**Early-morning weather delays:** Initially, D-38 will NOT send text messages for weather delays in the morning due to the extremely early hour at which that message is transmitted. This information is usually posted before 5:00 a.m. and is available from many media and internet sources. If a delay is updated to a closure, that information will be sent out to cell phones.