



# BRIDGEPREP ACADEMY

"Where learning is a journey!"

BridgePrep Academy of Orange

[baorlando.BridgePrepAcademy.com](http://baorlando.BridgePrepAcademy.com)

Dr. Joy Gordon Fernandez

Principal

Ms. Elizabeth Aldahondo

Administrative Dean

August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

BridgePrep Academy of Orange is well aware that inclement weather, including lightning, can strike Central Florida without much warning this time of the year. The National Weather Service routinely issues watches and warning for thunderstorms that produce tornadoes and other severe weather. It does not however, issue warnings based solely upon lightning. Moreover a storm need not be severe in order to produce copious lightning strikes.

During times when severe weather and/or lightning is in the immediate area, all efforts are made to help ensure the safety of students and adults.

During these situations we will follow the guidance and recommendations of Orange County Public Schools which observes the Florida 30-30 rule, meaning students cannot be dismissed if thunder is heard within 30 seconds of a lightning strike.

### **The 30-30 Rule**

The "30-30 Rule" will be used during thunder/lightning events to determine when to seek a safer location. The "30-30 Rule" states that when you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If the time is 30 seconds or less, go immediately to a safer place. Wait 30 minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving the safer location. If you can't see the lightning, just hearing the thunder means lightning is likely within striking range, go to a safer place.

### **Dismissal Procedures during Thunderstorms:**

When severe weather occurs at dismissal time, parents can expect a delay in the dismissal process. In the event the normal dismissal schedule is altered due to bad weather, students will be relocated to an inside safe areas.

Parents of students who are delayed in school dismissal by inclement weather will be notified by our BPA Communications APP callout message as well as communication through websites, and social media.

**Parents wishing to pick up their child may go to the office. Once the student is signed out, they will be released directly to the parent/guardian.**

### **Please Note:**

Students will be dismissed in rainy weather if lightning is not detected in the immediate area. Parents may wish to equip students with appropriate gear during the rainy season.

Sincerely

Dr. Joy Gordon Fernandez – Proud Principal

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### **Parental Authorization to take child:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ take full responsibility for my child and sign this waiver to give the school permission to dismiss her/him into my care during this time of inclement when the 30-30 rule is being followed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date