

SUSPENSION OF CLASSES BECAUSE OF WEATHER

Background

The safety of students and staff during periods of inclement weather or when other hazards arise is of paramount importance to the District.

The District will:

- Endeavour to keep all schools in the District open and in session on all prescribed school days provided that safety can be ensured for students and staff.
- Assess each occurrence of inclement weather or of a hazardous situation as it occurs, and initiate the appropriate actions to provide the safest conditions for students and staff.

Procedures

1. The Superintendent shall make the final decision regarding suspension of classes.
2. The Superintendent shall make all announcements including cancellation of bus transportation.
3. The Superintendent shall contact principals.
4. Announcements will be made over local radio stations. The District website and District social media accounts will be updated as quickly as possible.
5. Whenever possible these radio announcements will be made prior to 6:00 am to allow staff and students to remain at home.
6. Maintenance staff may be requested to report to work.
7. Principals shall encourage parents to exercise their prerogative to keep their children at home should the weather present unusual hazards. This message shall be presented in regular newsletters and through school social media and websites at suitable intervals throughout the year.
8. Principals will advise parents of the suspension of classes procedure early in the school year.
9. Principals and school staffs will establish a protocol for the safe release and supervision of children during the school day.
10. At the discretion of the Principal, staff members may be released prior to dismissal time.

Reference: Section 20, 22, 65, 73, 85, 90 School Act
School Regulation 265/89

Adopted: February 18, 2004

Revised: July 27, 2017; September 1, 2018