

## **730 EMERGENCY CLOSINGS**

The Superintendent is empowered to close the School District schools or to dismiss them early in the event of hazardous weather or other emergencies that threaten the health or safety of students and personnel. Such action is never to be taken lightly, for public education is one of the principle functions of the community and should be maintained at a normal level except in extreme circumstances. When this regularity of operation ceases, serious difficulties are caused and the welfare of children may be jeopardized. Schools may not properly be closed merely to avoid inconvenience. While it may be prudent, under certain circumstances, to excuse all students from attending school, to delay the opening hour, or to dismiss students early, the administration has the responsibility to see that as much of the administrative, supervisory and operational activity is continued as may be possible.

In making the decision to close schools, the Superintendent or designee shall consider many factors, including the following principle ones relating to the fundamental concern for the safety and health of children:

- A. Weather conditions, both existing and predicted.
- B. Driving and traffic conditions.
- C. Actual occurrence or imminent possibility of any emergency condition that would make the operation of schools difficult or dangerous.
- D. The inability of teaching personnel to report for duty, which might result in inadequate supervision of students.

The Superintendent shall weight these factors before taking action to close the schools. If schools are closed, it shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or his/her designee to notify the local media of such closings.

### **Weather Related Cancellations of Activities:**

1. If school is dismissed early because of impending weather, there will be no activities, games, nor practices. In the event that the School District has decided there will be no practice, players SHOULD NOT organize or participate in captains' practices regardless of venue.

2. If there is a late start and school completes the day, games and practices will go ahead as scheduled.
3. When school has been cancelled and an improvement in weather and travel conditions is expected, the district reserves the right to:
  - a. Have practices at suitable times
  - b. Have contests with opponent schools, where satisfactory travel conditions occur between the two communities. Events will be scheduled on a case-by-case basis. This might mean that some events would be held and others may not. Clearly this would also depend on agreement and cooperation by the opponent school.
4. The best decision will be made on each event and communicated in a timely fashion to patrons via local media outlets.
5. Decisions on post-season tournament play (section play-off games or activities) are made by the section/region and not by the individual schools.
6. In the event that school cancellations are non-weather related, such as ruptured pipes, power outages, etc., the decision will be made on a case-by-case basis.