

EBCD – SCHOOL CLOSINGS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER AND EMERGENCY

The Superintendent is empowered to delay or close the schools, or to dismiss students early in the event of hazardous weather or other emergencies which threaten the health or safety of students and personnel. At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent will designate a District Emergency Closings Coordinator to consult on school closings and to make decisions regarding school closings in his/her absence.

Students, parents, and staff shall be informed early in each school year of the procedures which will be used to notify them in case of emergency closing, whether action is taken before or during school hours. When schools are closed for emergency reasons, staff members will comply with Board policy in reporting to work.

The following criteria and procedures for emergency closings of the schools shall be followed.

1. The District Emergency Closings Coordinator may consult the District Facilities Department, Town Road Agent, and School Principals in making the determination to delay/close school with the Superintendent or in the absence of the Superintendent.
2. The decision to delay or close school will be made, if at all possible, by 6:00 am. If the decision is made to change from a delay to a full cancellation, it is to be made, if at all possible, by 8:00 am.
3. If a school delay is warranted, school will be delayed for two (2) hours.
4. A decision may also be made to have an early release in anticipation of inclement weather. Notification will be made, if at all possible, the night prior. An early release may also be called in an unanticipated weather event or emergency situation.
5. An emergency call list to notify administration, staff, regular and special transportation personnel, receiving schools, road agent, school board, television and radio stations, Alert Now® etc. will be in effect and updated annually.
6. If school is delayed or closed due to hazardous road conditions, this emergency closing will apply to all schools including Epping students attending special education, career and technical, and other alternative schools.
7. If school is delayed or closed due to hazardous road conditions, this emergency closing will apply to transportation for co-curricular, extracurricular, and athletic school events.
8. If school is canceled for the day, all school sponsored after school events will also be canceled to insure student safety and school security, and to accommodate snow removal.
9. On non-school days with inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances, the District Emergency Closings Coordinator and Superintendent will develop emergency closing protocols, including the Facilities and/or Athletic Departments, for facilities use on non-school days. Approval will be based on safety and the parking lot being cleared of snow and prepped for ice if applicable.
10. An early dismissal of school due to inclement weather or extenuating circumstances may be requested by the School Principal or designee, and is subject to approval by the Superintendent or designee. All personnel will be notified and all school events are to be canceled.

11. When schools are closed for emergency reasons, staff members will comply with Board policy in reporting for work.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Handbook (Referenced in Student and Personnel Handbooks)

APPROVED/REVISED: June 14, 2007, August 20, 2009, December 4, 2014

PREVIOUS POLICY: September 25, 2000 “Emergency Closings” “Emergency Closing Procedures for Inclement Weather”