

CHELSEA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Transportation Services

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Severe Weather Procedures

The Chelsea School District Transportation Department follows procedures outlined by the Michigan Department of Education-School Bus Driver Curriculum during a severe weather event.

1. If a Tornado Watch is in effect, the driver may proceed on the route if evident the route can be completed before severe weather closes in.
2. If a Tornado Warning is in effect, the school bus should not be loaded.
3. If a Tornado Warning has been issued after Chelsea School District buses have been loaded and are on route, drivers will be instructed to continue their route as normal and be aware of changing weather conditions.
 - a. If a tornado has been sighted while on a route, the driver has several alternatives:
 - Unload into a ditch or ravine some distance away from the bus and in the direction that the wind will not roll the bus onto students.
 - If no depression is available, have the children lie down on the ground on the side of the bus nearest the approaching tornado. The bus passengers should be instructed to leave the bus rapidly and as orderly as possible using both the emergency door and the service door. Under no conditions should they attempt to pick up their personal belongings.