Information for parents and staff about school closings due to inclement weather.

How does Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) decide to close schools due to weather? Student safety is the primary concern of the Superintendent when making the decision to close schools due to weather conditions. Several factors are taken into consideration, including:

- Is there a sustained wind chill of minus 34° F or lower? (automatic closure);
- Will the wind chill stay that low for an extended period of time? Will the temperature be below zero for an extended period of time?
- Is there blowing and drifting snow with winds of 20 miles per hour? Is there or will there be a heavy accumulation of snow especially during typical travel times to/from school?
- Are streets and sidewalks clear? Are buses unable to run due to extreme cold or unplowed streets?
- Are driving conditions hazardous? Are there power or phone outages?

In the event our schools are closed or the arrival/dismissal time is changed due to severe weather, an announcement will be made on local television, radio stations, and area media sites. It will also be noted on KUSD’s Website, www.kusd.edu; KUSD Channel 20; Facebook.com/kenoshaschools; Twitter.com/KUSD; and 359-SNOW (7669).

If schools will be closed for the day, the District will make every effort to release the information to area media by 5:30 a.m. If school is closed for the day, all after school activities in the District, including sports and evening events, will be canceled. Also, when our schools are closed, no transportation will be provided to private and parochial schools within the District boundaries.

If the opening of school is delayed or students will be dismissed early, an announcement will be made on television, radio, and our social media sites (Web, Facebook and Twitter), and KUSD Channel 20.

Instruct your child what to do, who to contact, and/or where to go if school is dismissed early. School personnel will not leave their buildings until all students are transported home and walkers are dismissed.

THREE PROCEDURES TO LOOK/LISTEN FOR
Unless notified otherwise, Procedure 1 is in effect.

Procedure 1: “All schools in the Kenosha Unified School District will be open today. Students and personnel will be expected to attend as normally scheduled.”

Procedure 2: “All schools in the Kenosha Unified School District will be open two hours later this morning, and buses that transport students will be running approximately two hours late. There will be no AM or PM Early Childhood, Speech Impact or Four-Year-Old Kindergarten classes. Personnel are expected to report as normally scheduled. Dismissal will be at the regular time.”

Procedure 3: “All schools in the Kenosha Unified School District will be closed and no students are expected to report. The Senior Citizens Center will be closed. All secretaries should not report to work. The only persons required to report to work today are: full-time custodial employees; full-time food service workers; maintenance personnel; carpenters and painters; warehouse personnel; and administrative, supervisory and technical personnel.”

Special note for CLC: Afterschool programs operate on days the schools are open. If schools are closed, the Afterschool programs are closed as well. If a cancellation comes before 1:00 p.m., CLC sites will not open and staff do not report. If the cancellation comes after 1:00 p.m. the Director at each site reports to the facility and begins calling parents of the Afterschool students stating they are to be picked up by the end of the school day. Directors are not expected to stay beyond school closing hours. All students at the school after dismissal are the school’s sole responsibility.

Guidelines for keeping students indoors and allowing early entrance to buildings

1. General guidelines: ten degrees above zero or lower - indoor recess, indoor noon recess, and early entrance to door areas/hallways; wind chill factor of zero or lower - indoor recess, indoor noon recess, and early entrance to door areas/hallways; rain, drizzle, or blizzard conditions - indoor recess, indoor noon recess, and early entrance to door areas/hallways.

2. Administrator’s responsibilities: The principal is responsible for the timely implementation of the guidelines; reasonable supervision of students under all circumstances; and informing parents each year of the District’s expectations regarding indoor periods due to weather conditions. Student handbooks should contain a statement in this regard.

Temperature Overview

Sustained temperature: - 20° F Automatic Closure

Sustained wind chill: - 34° F Automatic Closure

11/07/11