

EMERGENCY SCHOOL & DISTRICT CLOSINGS*Category: Recommended**Related Policies: EBCF, EBCG, IC & IMBA*

No school, office, or system event cancellation or delay will be made without the direct authorization of the Superintendent of Schools. In the event the Superintendent is unavailable, such decisions will be made by an employee specifically designated by the Superintendent.

- A. Announcements and Notifications. When the Superintendent/designee decides it is necessary to delay opening or close the school or cancel any school event, he/she will initiate all related communications to the public by radio, television, website, school alert system, or other available means. 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 closings, whether action is taken before or during school hours.
- B. Delayed Opening of Schools. The Superintendent/designee may delay the opening of schools upon determining that weather conditions appear extremely hazardous to operate school buses at the regular early morning hours, but that travel conditions will appreciably improve later in the morning. The public announcement will report the delayed opening. After-school activities and events will not be affected by a delayed opening.
- C. Closing of Schools Only for the Entire Day. When the Superintendent determines that weather or other conditions exist or will develop that would make it unwise to open the school any time during the day, the announcement communicated to all shall state that the school district is closed. If school is closed for the entire day, all afternoon and evening programs shall also be canceled.
- D. Emergency Early Release. In the event that weather conditions are safe for travel in the morning but become hazardous by the time of normally scheduled dismissals, the Superintendent may decide to release students early. The Superintendent will notify parents as soon as possible in order to allow for the arrangement of after-school care and transportation when necessary. The Superintendent shall develop protocols for dismissal schedules, transportation of students, and notification of stakeholders. If there is an emergency early release, all afternoon and evening programs shall also be canceled.
- E. Afternoon and Evening Program Cancellations. When schools are open to the end of the school day, but weather or other conditions deteriorate in the late afternoon, the Superintendent/designee may decide to cancel afternoon and evening programs.
- F. Weekend Closings. When weather or other conditions are predicted or develop that would make it hazardous to operate weekend programs or events, the Superintendent/designee is responsible for decisions regarding cancellations and for notifying the appropriate media.
- G. Staff Responsibilities. When schools are closed pursuant to this policy, staff members shall remain available for work as directed by the Superintendent.

District Policy History:*First reading: October 26, 2009**Second reading/adopted: November 9, 2009*

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Other district policy history:

August 19, 2012

March 14, 2016

October 17, 2022

Approved - December 19, 2022

Legal References:

RSA 189:1, Days of School

N.H. Dept. of Ed. Rule - Ed 306.18, School Year

N.H. Dept. of Ed. Rule - Ed 306.19, School Calendar

N.H. Dept. of Ed. Rule - Ed 306.22, Distance Education