

WEATHER CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS

Background

The District will try to keep schools open on every regular instructional day. Any decision to close schools for the safety of children will be made by the Superintendent.

The District has responsibility under the School Act to provide education to its students while ensuring their health and safety.

Procedures

1. The decision to close schools or delay their opening will be made by the Superintendent, or when absent, by the designate, after consultation with municipal and District officials as required.
2. Parents and staff will be informed of the Superintendent's decision through the District's two communication systems – the District website www.sd45.bc.ca and the District's Synvoice "SchoolConnects" electronic messaging system. The District will endeavour to communicate the Superintendent's decision by 6:00 a.m. on the day of closure.
3. It is the responsibility of principals or their designate to arrive at school in time to care for any students who may arrive at school. It is the responsibility of the school custodian to arrive at school and ensure that the facilities are safe and operational.
4. No other staff are required to report to the school on the day of closure but it is expected that they will work from home as this is a paid working day.
5. Facilities staff, identified by the Director of Facilities, are expected to assist with snow removal or other weather related challenges.
6. Early dismissal decisions will be made by the Principal in consultation with the Superintendent based on student safety on their return trip home. The school bus operator must be informed.
7. Principals will ensure that effective notice is given to the parents and students of these procedures each year.