

Platte County School District #1: Winter Weather, School Closures, and Learning Expectations

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As winter approaches, we want to share how Platte County School District #1 makes weather-related school closure decisions and how students will continue learning when school buildings are closed. The safety of our students and staff is our highest priority.

When winter weather requires a school closure, the district will make the decision before 5:00 a.m. or, when the forecast provides enough information, the night before. Our goal is to give families as much notice as possible so parents and guardians can arrange care for their children when in-person school is not in session.

Closure decisions are made at the district level after reviewing National Weather Service forecasts, including detailed information the district receives before major weather events. The district also consults resources such as the Wyoming Highway Patrol and Platte County Road and Bridge. Our Transportation Department may also drive roads to assess conditions and provides feedback to the superintendent before a decision is made.

Our district covers a large geographic area, from Chugwater to Glendo, and weather and road conditions can vary significantly across district boundaries. Parents and guardians may determine that travel to and from school is unsafe for their children, even when the district keeps schools open. You do not need to wait for a district closure decision to make that determination. Please notify your child's school if unsafe travel conditions prevent attendance.

When school buildings close because of weather, students will continue academic activities as follows:

- **Grades K–5:** Students will use their Blizzard Bags, which contain paper-and-pencil academic activities. These materials may also include links to academic programs that can be accessed using any device connected to the internet.
- **Grades 6-8:** Students will follow teacher directions through Google Classroom, email, and ParentSquare for academic activities that can be accessed using any device connected to the internet.
- **Grades 9–12:** Students will move from face-to-face instruction to a temporary virtual learning day, primarily using their district-issued Chromebooks. Students should follow their teachers' directions for assignments and participation.

Please help your children keep their learning materials accessible and their district-issued Chromebooks charged, as applicable. If your family experiences difficulty accessing assignments or online activities, please contact your child's teacher or school.

We recognize that weather-related closures affect family schedules, childcare, and work arrangements. Thank you for your flexibility and partnership as we work to keep students and staff safe while supporting continued learning throughout the winter.

Sincerely,

John Weigel
Superintendent
Platte County School District #1