

FIRST READING: 11/02/2020
11/07/2022

ADOPTED: 11/16/2020

REVISED:

Emergency School & District Closings

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 a senior administrator specifically designated by the Superintendent.

- A. Announcements and Notifications. When the Superintendent/designee decides it is necessary to delay opening, or close any facility or school, or cancel any school event, they 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. In the event of any closings, cancellations, or early dismissals, the Superintendent shall notify the Board.
- 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, including the cancellation of morning preschool, if necessary. School and offices shall close on the regular schedules. After-school activities and events will not be affected by a delayed opening.
- C. Closing of School 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 radio and television stations 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 dismissal, 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 school is 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. The School and offices should plan and communicate alternate dates and times to hold programs or events.

- 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 school is closed pursuant to this policy, staff members shall remain available for work as directed by the Superintendent.

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