

Parent Resources

School Closings: What to Do When Weather Strikes

Inclement weather

Schools could be closed due to inclement weather. The decision to close a school is made by the building administrator with input about the condition of the roads from transportation personnel, local school districts and the highway patrol. When it is not possible to safely transport at least 50 percent of enrolled students, the school will close.

Parents can find out about school closings by listening to or watching the designated local media. By 6 a.m. on the day of closing, the building administrator will notify the radio and television stations listed in the school handbook.

When classes are already in session, school might close early to ensure the safety of students and staff if weather conditions worsen during the day. Relevant factors include snow and ice storms, anticipated tornado activity, and expected flooding. Early releases typically occur at noon or later. Before buses leave the school, staff must have direct contact with each parent to make certain that someone will be at home to receive the student.

Transportation factors to remember

If it is difficult to access your home due to ice or mud, the building administrator might ask you to transport your student to and from a convenient location near a main road for both pickup and drop-off.

Decisions on whether your child can be picked up in poor weather conditions are made by the building administrator with input from you and bus personnel. Bus personnel do not make this decision themselves. If you are called by bus personnel who refuse to pick up your child, please report this situation to the building administrator.

Closings for other reasons

Schools might be closed due to a lack of water, electricity, heating or cooling. Staff will contact you directly if the school needs to close for one of these reasons; they will make sure arrangements are in place to have someone receive your child. Closing for these reasons could happen early in the morning after the buses are on the road, and the buses might turn around and bring your child home without reaching school.

When there is an epidemic of illness and less than 50 percent of students are expected to be in attendance, school might close for a day or two. Staff will notify you in advance about this decision.

Toll-free number for closed schools

A statewide toll-free number is available to find out information about closed state office buildings (including Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled). Information might not be posted until later in the morning. Call (888) 390-9927.



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