

## **2024-2025 Severe weather school closure information**

### **School closure information for employees**

Below is a reminder of our process for communicating school closures when severe weather conditions make travel to and from schools unsafe.

The district recognizes school closures can be a hardship for many families and we always make every effort to keep schools open when possible.

Our schools are located across a wide geographic area and weather conditions can vary drastically from one school to another. This means one area may not receive much snowfall however, several inches of snow in other parts will mean it is not safe for buses, staff, or students to travel to school and closures are necessary.

School district staff monitor road conditions starting at 2 a.m. and consider local safety advisories, such as direction to the public from RCMP to avoid travel. A recommendation on whether to close schools is made to the Superintendent of Schools by 5:30 a.m. If the decision to close schools is made, please note the following:

- Communications to parents, caregivers, and school district employees will be sent before 6:00 a.m.
- Parents/caregivers will receive an email and text notification sent from the school district's notification system.
- Employees will receive an email.
- Announcements will be made on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM, WAVE 102.3 FM, and 91.7 COAST FM) on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station – tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.
- The district website: [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca) will also have a notification on the home page if schools are closed.

It is always our priority to have schools open to maximize learning opportunities for students.

### **ALL STAFF**

- If schools are open but you are unable to travel to your place of work, you may use a paid or unpaid discretionary day, unpaid personal leave, or unpaid family responsibility leave for the time off.

### **FOR PVPs, TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF**

- Teachers (NDTA) have a clause in their collective agreement which excuses them from attending on a day when classes are not in session due to inclement weather.
- CUPE staff have a clause in their collective agreement which excuses them from attending on a day when classes are not in session due to inclement weather (two paid days per school year).  
Note: There are CUPE positions that have been classified as essential to operations ie: snow

removal, where staff are required to work on days when classes are not in session due to inclement weather, staff in these positions have been notified.

- Principals/Vice Principals are not required to travel to their school on a school closure day.

#### **RENTALS**

- All rental agreements will be cancelled on the day of a school closure.

#### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- In the event of a school closure day, all school activities will also be cancelled (i.e. school sporting events/excursions, PAC meetings etc.)