

602A EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. All school closings and/or schedule changes are decided by the Superintendent or appointed designee. The most compelling reason for closing schools is the safety of our students. Decisions to cancel or shorten the regular school day and after school activities shall be made by the Superintendent or designee in consultation with other staff, and may include consultation with local county personnel and neighboring school districts, as appropriate. The Transportation Director and Buildings & Grounds Supervisor will consult with the Superintendent to ensure facilities are able to receive students and buses are able to run routes. Decisions on school closings and late starts will be made as early as possible – either the night before or as early in the morning as possible, typically by 5:30 AM.
- B. The decision may be the result of inclement weather, loss of power, water main break and/or other emergency situations that may occur within the district. The Superintendent works with the Transportation Supervisor to verify the conditions of the roads and the ability for all buses to operate safely and for drivers to be able to arrive in time for routes to run.
- C. All school closings will be communicated by the Superintendent or designee through:
 - a. Parent and Staff Notification System (*messages via SchoolMessenger*)
 - b. District website
 - c. Social Media
 - d. Local Media Outlets – KQ92, WDAY/WDAZ, KVLV, FOX 9
- D. Late starts and early dismissals are inherently difficult for many programs and families. With this in mind, administration will do their best to keep these to a minimum. Early dismissals will be determined as conditions dictate.
- E. All families should have a contingency plan for their children in the event of school closings. Students are expected to go home when school is closed. Parents need to contact the school if there are changes to their child’s normal drop-off spot.
- F. If school is let out early, the Lake of the Woods International Arena will remain closed for a minimum of two hours to allow students to go home. International Arena, at the discretion of the International Arena Board, may open after that time. Students will not be allowed to stay at school to wait for the arena to open.
- G. In the event of an early dismissal, all afternoon and evening Community Education and all after school athletics, activities, and co-curricular will be canceled. All community building reservations will be canceled.

- H. In the event of inclement weather or emergencies, the following guidelines are observed:
 - a. If Lake of the Woods School is canceled for the day, all Community Education classes are canceled.
 - b. If school begins late, Community Education classes will not meet in the AM session. Classes that begin at noon or after will be held.
 - c. If school dismisses early, all Community Education classes are canceled for the remainder of the day and evening.
 - d. If school is not canceled, but the weather is threatening, evening classes will be canceled by 3 p.m.
- I. Weekend events and/or facility rentals will be determined by appropriate Community Education and athletic staff and communicated via local media outlets.