

Inclement Weather Procedure Guidelines

School Closure Procedure Guidelines

The Montana Department of Transportation and Flathead County have discontinued “Emergency Travel Only” declarations. The ETO declaration has been replaced by a “Severe Driving Conditions” declaration. The SDC declaration will not be countywide and will not be accompanied by driving restrictions. Therefore, there will be no countywide road condition declaration that will initiate a countywide school closure. Each county school will make its own closure call based on district-wide road conditions. A closure applies to all but a skeleton crew necessary to be sure that buildings are open.

The District will not use late starts.

Once students are transported to school by bus, they will remain in school until the end of the school day. The district will not release children early because necessary parent contacts cannot be assured. Parents may pick up their children at any time.

If the decision is made that no buses are running, school will be closed. Schools may be kept open if just a few buses cannot run. The number of bus routes not running to influence school closure on a given day is a judgment call related to appropriate variables. The magic number hovers around seven bus routes. If a bus does not run in the morning because of inclement weather, it will not run in the afternoon.

If students can be safely transported, water and electricity are flowing, and heating systems are up and running, classes will be held.

In the event of school closure or bus route cancellations, the District will use the AlertNow emergency notification system to alert parents and guardians. The District will make every effort to initiate the AlertNow emergency notification system before 7:00 a.m.

In addition, school closure information will be presented to area radio stations prior to 7:00 a.m. The District, however, does not have control over when and/or how often school closure announcements are made by radio stations. Those stations include: KOFI (1180 AM), Monster (103.9 FM), KJJR (880 AM), BEAR (106.3 FM), KBBZ (98.5 FM), KALS (FM 97.1), KHNK (FM 95.9), KRVO (FM 103.1), and KWOL (105.1). Information will also be listed on the SD #6 website at www.cfmtschoools.net as soon as possible following a closure decision.