

Icy Conditions and Emergency Closings Policy

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Barbour County Board of Education recognizes the responsibility to ensure the safety of students while exercising due diligence in closing schools due to inclement weather and/or hazardous road conditions or when other calamitous conditions exist.
- 1.2 Scheduled classes for Barbour County Schools will not be cancelled unless the safety, health, or welfare of the students are threatened by inclement weather, hazardous road conditions, or a serious emergency.

2.0 Authority

- 2.1 The superintendent is authorized to announce a two-hour delay in the opening of schools; or to announce that school will be in session, but with limited bus runs and to ask parents to use their own discretion concerning sending or taking children to school; or to announce the emergency closing of county schools for the day; or to announce an early dismissal, if in his/her professional opinion, the safety of students outweighs the need for instruction on that given day.

3.0 Procedures

- 3.1 Public announcements and releases to the news media and on the board's Web site shall be made by the superintendent or his/her designee as soon as possible. Due to temperature changes, availability of salt and/or abrasive road materials and/or work accomplished by the highway department, decisions cannot always be made the night before. In such instances the news media and web-master will be notified and public announcements concerning the status of school will be handled according to county developed procedures. If no announcement is made, school will be in session.
- 3.2 The work schedule for employees on days of emergency closing will follow county developed procedures for this area. The superintendent shall have authority to require all school personnel to work adjusted schedules at their respective sites or at predetermined alternate sites as designated by the superintendent.
- 3.3 On days of emergency closing due to snow, icy conditions, or emergency situations, all extracurricular activities, curricular activities, cocurricular activities, athletic events and all other evening activities at schools shall be canceled. A winter curriculum of enrichment and/or supplemental materials will be utilized for all students for each day that school is closed. The superintendent reserves the right to allow an event to occur given the reason for the closing of schools is no longer a threat.

- 3.4 In the event school is delayed or is dismissed early, employees will adjust their work schedule in accordance with county developed procedures.
- 3.5 The superintendent reserves the right to assign any employee to work on a day on which school is closed. When such assignment is made, personnel will report according to county developed procedures.

Source: Board of Education Minutes
Policy Manual

Adopted: 1965

Revised: 06/14/10; 09/05/89; 12/02/86; 1985; 3/2/76; 1974

Legal: §18-5-45(c)(2)