

Closing School

The decision to close schools is not an easy one. While dangerous situations must be avoided, we do not want children to miss school unnecessarily. Please be assured these decisions are made thoughtfully and with the best interest of our students in mind. It is important that parents/guardians develop a plan in case school is canceled or delayed. The safety of our students should be the number one priority for all of us.

Occasionally, it is necessary to modify the school day or close schools due to inclement weather. Doing so always causes some confusion. We can minimize this confusion with advanced preparation and by following established procedures. The information provided in this brochure will assist you in understanding what will happen in the event that we decide to modify the school day, cancel some bus routes or close school due to inclement weather conditions.

If your child's bus route is canceled but District schools remain open, attendance is not mandatory.

If schools are closed for the entire day –

- The Campus Messenger notification system will be activated.
- All local radio and television stations will be notified of the decision to close schools by 6:00 a.m. whenever possible. Tune in to one of these stations for an announcement.

- All day and evening Community Education classes are cancelled.

If schools start two hours late--

- The Campus Messenger notification system will be activated.
- Local radio and television stations will be notified of the late start by 6:00 a.m. whenever possible. Tune in to one of these stations for an announcement.
- Buses will run where possible and will pick up students approximately two hours later than usual.
- Community Education morning classes will not meet. Classes that begin at noon or after will be held.
- Preschool class for the morning will be canceled. Afternoon classes will be held.

If schools are dismissed early-

- The campus Messenger notification system will be activated.
- All local radio and television stations will be notified. Tune in to one of these stations for an announcement.
- Buses will run where possible. If students cannot be bused home, parents/guardians will be notified.
- Have a plan for your child if school is dismissed early. This plan should be on file with the classroom teacher. If you live in a rural area or on a street, which is difficult to travel in bad weather, you may want to identify a family member or friend near the school where your child could go.
- Unless there is an emergency, do not call the school or administrative offices. All phone lines are needed to make calls to parents/guardians, bus companies, and radio stations.
- All Community Education classes are cancelled for the remainder of the day and evening.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING STUDENT INFORMATION

Child's Name _____ Classroom Teacher _____

Please choose only ONE option below:

Option #1:

_____ Follow regular dismissal procedure (the destination your child goes on a regular school day)

-or-

Option #2:

_____ Alternative Plan: My child needs to go to _____

_____ by way of walking

_____ by way of bus # _____

_____ by way of being picked up within 15 minutes of dismissal time

******PLEASE REMEMBER THAT CALLING YOU IS NOT AN OPTION******

If this form is not returned, we will follow regular dismissal procedure for your child. 11/18

School Age Child Care Policy

If an announcement has been made to cancel school:

- **Before 6:00 am:** Childcare will open at 8:00 and close at 4:00 pm.
 - **After 6:00 am:** Childcare will close at 4:00 pm.
- If an announcement has been made to delay school start time:
- **Before 6:00 am:** Childcare will open at 8:00 am.
 - **After 6:00 am:** Childcare will open as scheduled

Television Stations:

WCCO – CH 4
KMSP - CH 9
KTTC - CH 10
KARE - CH 11

Cold Weather Safety Tips

Winter in Zumbrota-Mazeppa brings cold weather with snow and ice. It is important to learn about cold weather safety and how to prepare for winter weather. The air temperature does not have to be below freezing to experience hypothermia and frostbite. Any bare skin left exposed to the elements is in danger. Here are some tips to help you prepare your children before they venture outside this winter.

- Dress children warmly. Clothing should consist of several thin layers, including thermal long johns, one or two shirts, pants, sweater, coat, warm socks, boots, gloves or mittens, a hat, face mask and a scarf.
- Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play. Call children in periodically to warm up with warm drinks, such as hot chocolate or apple cider.
- Slippery driveways and sidewalks can be particularly hazardous in the winter. Children walking to school should wear brightly colored reflective clothing (not white) and appropriate shoes or boots.
- Before children engage in winter activities such as sledding, ice skating, and skiing, parents/guardians and caregivers should inspect the equipment and environment for possible hazards. Remind children not to push and shove while engaging in sports, also tell them to always wait their turn.

Campus Messenger

Our District has implemented a new electronic system. This system allows us to notify parents or guardians of any school emergency information.

To view and / or update your information, please do so in Infinite Campus.

Guidelines for Closing School Due To

Incident Weather

*Independent School District #2805
Zumbrota-Mazeppa Public Schools*

11/18