

Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

2000 Education Administration

2425 School Closure: Occurrences of Unusual Circumstances

Date Revised: Jan. 25/05
Date Adopted: Nov. 1997

Responsibility
Centre: Superintendent of Schools

Policy

The Board of School Trustees expects that when unusual circumstances (e.g., lack of water, heat, gas, or power; road closures; weather warnings) occur, students will remain, whenever possible, at school and continue regular classroom activities.

The Board of School Trustees also realizes that unusual circumstances may make teaching areas or the school inoperable and it may be necessary to dismiss some or all of the students.

Regulations

1. Principals are expected to contact the Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent, or Director of Facility Services before making the decision to dismiss students because of unusual circumstances. No bus students shall be dismissed until busing arrangements have been confirmed.

Expectations for School Closures

1. All Administrative Officers are expected to be at their schools, if at all possible. For the safety of students who show up at school despite the announcement, it is important that Administrative Officers be at school at the normal time.
2. For teachers, clerical staff, special services assistants and custodial staff, this is a day of work and there is an expectation that they will come in if possible. If people cannot travel because of concern for safety, then by contacting their Principal, may be given approval to not come in, to come in late, or to leave early if conditions deteriorate.
3. "*Schools are Closed*" will be the announcement from the Superintendent's office, and it is our intention that students will not be present. In all cases, where students show up at the school despite the closure, they will be sent home, following contact with parents. The reason for this is that we do not want to establish an informal policy of schools being open for those who can get there when we are not sure of how many staff can be in on time. Also we do not wish to be responsible for children given that road conditions might deteriorate further.
4. For the handful of senior secondary students who show up anyway, you may use your judgement and may allow them to work quietly within the school.

Buses

Cancellation of specific or all bus runs shall be made by the Superintendent of Schools, or if he is unavailable, the Assistant Superintendent.