

112 INCLEMENT WEATHER

Beliefs

MESC is responsible for ensuring that each of its students is provided with an education. Therefore, schools shall remain open to students during the times and dates established by the Board.

Procedures

1. School bus services may be suspended due to adverse road or weather conditions that jeopardize the safety of students, however, schools will remain open.
2. School bus route suspension will not always be made on a system-wide basis due to the large geographic area of the Commission.
3. Parents are not required to send their children to school if, in their judgment, weather or road conditions are detrimental to the safety, or well being of their children.
4. Parents who have brought their children to school on days when school bus services are suspended will be responsible for picking up their children.
5. Any of the following factors, or combinations of factors, shall serve as guidelines for considering the suspension of school bus services:
 - 5.1. Temperature of -40 degrees celsius with or without a wind chill factor as reported by the weather office for the area in question;
 - 5.2. Visibility of less than 30 meters;
 - 5.3. Road closures by the R.C.M.P, municipal or other local road officials.
6. When school bus services are suspended, schools shall remain open to students. All staff members are expected to report to work. On scheduled Diploma Examination dates, students who arrive at school shall write the examination.
7. The decision to suspend bus routes will be determined by the Contractor (Maskwacis Transport Ltd).
8. Once a decision is made to suspend a bus route or all bus routes due to road or weather conditions, the Contractor (Maskwacis Transport Ltd) shall use the *Bus Status App* to notify Parents, Students, and MESC Principals.

9. The Contractor (Maskwacis Transport Ltd.) may make the decision to operate their bus early due to weather or road conditions. The Contractor shall contact the MESC Transportation Coordinator and the school principal. The Contractor shall make every reasonable effort to contact all parents of students transported on that route. Schools shall remain open to students whose parents or older siblings cannot be contacted, until such time as alternate housing or transportation arrangements can be made.
10. If the operator encounters impassable roads and is not able to complete the route, the Contractor shall contact the MESC Transportation Coordinator and;
 - 10.1. Advise the MESC Transportation Coordinator, who will immediately call the school,
 - 10.2. make every effort to notify the parents of the students on that route; and
 - 10.3. deliver those students on the bus back to their residence.
11. Normally busses will not run early if inclement weather conditions develop during the day. Students will remain at the school until the end of the day, unless picked up by their parents.
 - 11.1. If the Contractor decides to run all busses early, they will notify the MESC Transportation Coordinator and update the MESC *Bus Status App.*;
 - 11.2. The Transportation Coordinator shall notify principals.;
 - 11.3. Bus Contractors shall ensure that students have accessed their residence prior to continuing on their route; and
 - 11.4. Schools shall remain open to students whose parents or older siblings are not home, until such time as alternate housing arrangement can be made.
12. For the safety of students it is the responsibility of the parents to ensure:
 - 12.1. That their children are suitably dressed for coping with weather conditions.
 - 12.2. Arrangements have been made for alternate shelter for their child(ren) if no one is home.