

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall have the authority to close schools because of extreme weather or other emergency conditions for the length of time the emergency exists. He/She shall make provisions to publicly announce such closings via several designated radio and television stations as soon as possible after the decision has been reached. (Currently in use are radio stations KMCH, WMT, KOEL, and KCRG and television stations KGAN, KWVL and KCRG.)

With regard to co-curricular school events and practices, it shall be the general policy that when school has been canceled due to adverse weather conditions, there shall be no events or practices held. Likewise, if school is delayed, no events or practices will be held in the morning before school.

There may, however, be exceptions to this general policy. For example, if school is canceled early in the morning because of adverse weather conditions and the weather and road conditions improve dramatically, throughout the day, a practice may be held on certain circumstances.

Specifically, if the weather and road conditions have improved dramatically and the coaches wish to conduct a voluntary practice for those students who wish to attend, they may do so if they receive the approval of both the high school principal and athletic director. Under no circumstances, however, may the coaches decide independently whether or not to conduct practice, and under no circumstances will the practice, if held, be a required one.

On days when school is dismissed early due to adverse weather conditions, it shall be the general policy that there shall be no events or practices held. However, with the approval of the high school principal and the athletic director (if an athletic activity), a coach or director may conduct a voluntary practice for those students who live in town. All other students will be sent home.

On a day when school is closed for adverse weather, a voluntary practice for a non-athletic activity may be conducted if the weather and road conditions have improved dramatically and the director of the activity receives the approval of the high school principal.

Although exceedingly rare, a co-curricular event may be conducted on a day when school has been closed if the weather and road conditions have improved dramatically and provided approval has been obtained from the high school principal and the athletic director (if an athletic event).

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Iowa,, Sections 279.8; 279.10; 321.372(1)

CROSS REFERENCE: Board Policy 702.120

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