

<i>Policy</i>	<i>Title</i> EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING	<i>Code</i> EBCD
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HOLLISTON

The superintendent may close the schools, delay opening, dismiss the schools early, or delay school closure in the event of hazardous weather or other emergencies that threaten the health or safety of students and personnel. While it may be prudent, under certain circumstances, to delay the opening, to dismiss students early, or to delay closure, the superintendent has the responsibility to see that as much of the administrative, supervisory, and operational activity continues to the extent possible.

In making the decision, the fundamental concern will be the safety and health of the students and staff. The superintendent will consider the following factors:

1. Weather conditions, both existing and predicted
2. Driving, traffic, and parking conditions affecting public and private transportation facilities
3. Actual occurrence or imminent possibility of any emergency condition that would make the operation of schools or the release of students difficult or dangerous
4. Inability of teaching personnel to report for duty, which might result in inadequate supervision of students

The superintendent will weigh these factors and take action to close the schools only after consultation with public works and public safety authorities and with school officials from neighboring towns. Students, parents and staff will be informed early in each school year of the procedures that will be used to notify them in case of emergency closings. When schools are closed for emergency reasons, staff members will comply with School Committee policy in reporting for work.

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