

**Board of Education Policy**

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

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The Superintendent of Schools may close the District's schools or dismiss students early when hazardous weather or other emergencies threaten their health or safety, or that of personnel. The Superintendent may delegate this authority to other staff members in the event of his/her absence.

In making the decision to close schools, the Superintendent will consider many factors, including the following which relate to the safety and health of children:

1. Weather conditions, both existing and predicted;
2. Driving, traffic, and parking conditions affecting public and private transportation facilities;
3. Extraordinary conditions involving school facilities, including, but not limited to: impairment of heating facilities, insufficient water supply, fuel shortage, lack of electricity, natural gas leak, unacceptable levels of chemical substances, pandemics, and/or the destruction of a school building.
4. Actual occurrence or imminent possibility of any emergency condition that would make the operation of schools difficult or dangerous; and
5. Inability of teaching personnel to report for duty, which might result in inadequate supervision of students.

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.

Unless otherwise excused by the Commissioner of Education or Federal or State law, all school days lost due to emergency closings which result in there being less than 180 days of school days as required by the Education Law, shall be made up utilizing scheduled vacation days, including, but not limited to, days of religious observance associated with Passover, Easter, and other religious holidays, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, as defined by Federal and State law.

**Reference:** 8 NYCRR § 175.5;  
Education Law § 3604; and  
N.Y. STATE EDUC. DEPT., *Attendance and the School Calendar: Guidelines and Reporting for State Aid Purposes* (June 2015)

**Adopted:** 12/12/1996  
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