

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LEAD. CARE. INSPIRE.



Ann Arbor Public Schools Inclement Weather School Closures

Board of Education Update

February 20, 2019

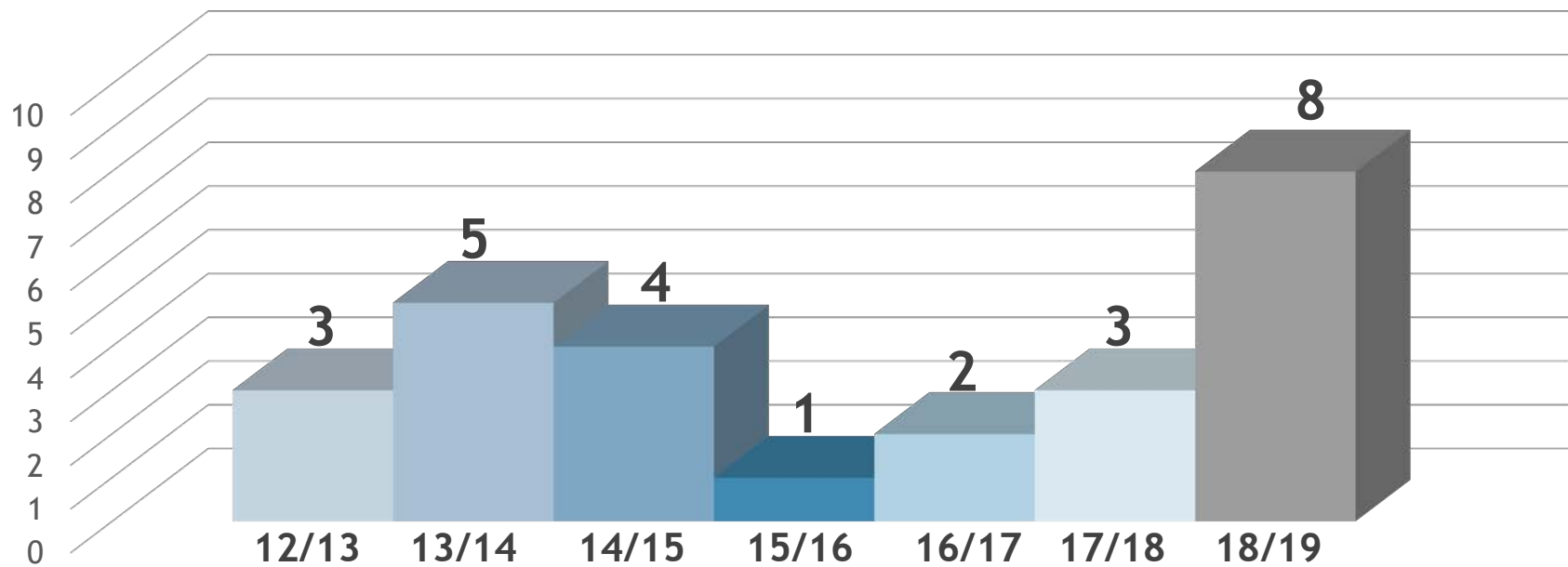
2018-19 District-Wide Closure Days: 8

1. 1/23/19 Inclement Weather (Ice)
2. 1/24/19 Inclement Weather (Ice)
3. 1/28/19 Inclement Weather (Snow)
4. 1/30/19 Inclement Weather (Temperature)
5. 1/31/19 Inclement Weather (Temperature)
6. 2/6/19 Inclement Weather (Ice)
7. 2/12/19 Inclement Weather (Snow/Ice)
8. 2/13/19 Inclement Weather (Snow/Ice)



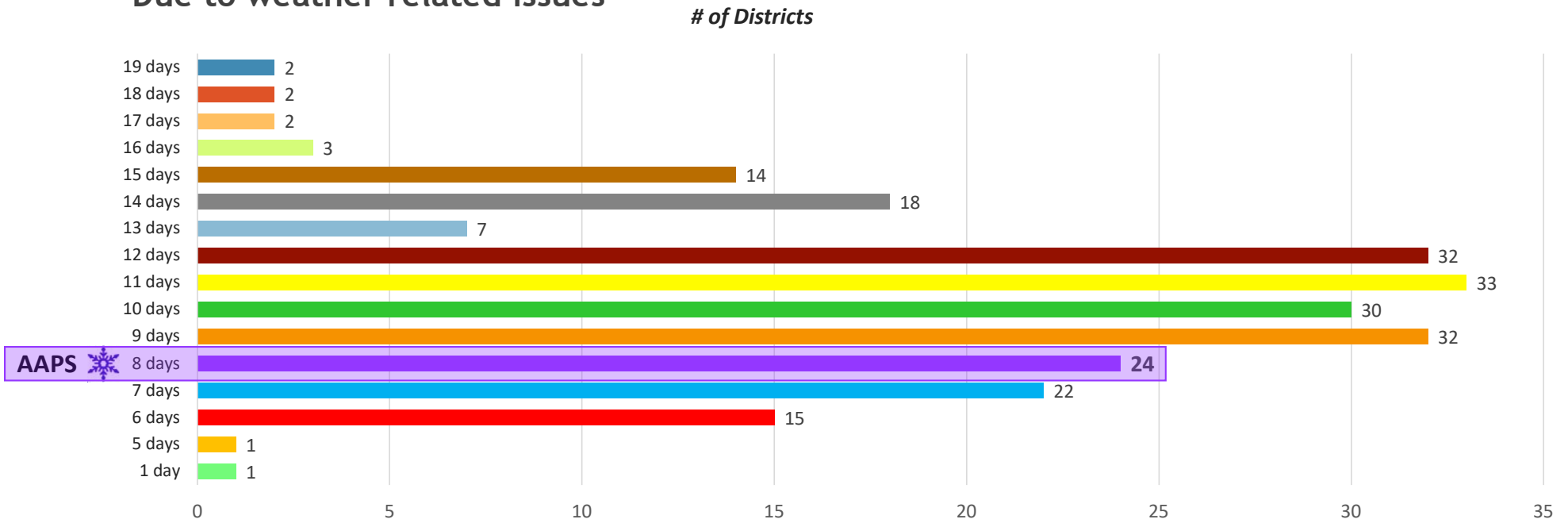
District-Wide Closure Days: 2012-2019

Closures due to inclement weather



School Closure Days To Date: Michigan

February 14, 2019 Survey of 266 Michigan Districts
Number of days cancelled, by number of districts
Due to weather related issues



AAPS ❄️



ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Our Schools

- Directory of Schools
- Back to School Guides
- District Map
- Attendance Area by Street Directory
- Attendance Boundaries
- Feeder Schools
- School Closings
- School Lunch & Breakfast Menus
- AAPS Bell Schedules
- 2018-19 Bus Schedules
- ADA Walkways & Entrances
- School Safety

Home > About > Our Schools > School Closings

School Closing Information

School Safety

- School Safety
- Weather Closure Protocol
- Winter Weather Guidelines
- Pedestrian Safety
- ALICE Response Protocol
- Crisis Response Protocol
- School Safety Drill Records
- Transportation Safety Committee

Home > About > School Safety > Weather Closure Protocol

Inclement Weather School Closing Protocol

[Click here for printable](#)

The Ann Arbor Public School District (AAPS) will determine if conditions present a safety hazard for our students and staff by working with the Durham School Department (DSS) Transportation Department and in consultation with the Ann Arbor Police Department (AAPD), Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office and the Washtenaw County Road Commission, as well as the other Washtenaw County Superintendents.

Closing Protocol for Early Morning Notification

1. When the weather forecast calls for potentially hazardous conditions but generally assessment of the roads are done throughout the night in coordination with the WISD Transportation and local law enforcement.

[How Does the Ann Arbor Public Schools Make a "Snow Day" Decision?](#)

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Ann Arbor Public Schools Inclement Weather School Closing Protocol

As winter approaches with the potential for inclement weather, this is to inform families and staff members about the protocols for determining if conditions warrant closing schools.

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Closing Protocol for Early Morning Notification

- When the weather forecast calls for potentially hazardous conditions due to inclement weather, the DSS Transportation Department, along with AAPS Executive Director of Physical Properties, will begin monitoring conditions starting late in the evening/early morning hours.
 - DSS Transportation Supervisors drive a variety of roads across the district
 - AAPS monitors conditions at the schools
 - Sheriff and AAPD are consulted regarding road conditions
 - City and County Road Departments are consulted regarding road conditions and timing of the road clearing schedule
- County Superintendents conduct a conference call after Transportation reports their recommendation for closing schools based on conditions of roads and schools drives/sidewalks and weather forecast
- AAPS Superintendent confirms decision to close or open school – Decision to close should be confirmed no later than 4:30 a.m. and communicated to appropriate staff:
 - Superintendent contacts Executive Director of Physical Properties and the Communications team.
 - Physical Properties begins their plan for clearing school property based on weather conditions
 - Communications team contacts:
 - Media
 - Email AAPS Staff through District Announce

AAPS Transportation

- 4,800 Students
 - 4,000 P-12 Students on AAPS Buses
 - 715 Students on AAATA Buses
 - 90 Students by Taxi or other Public Transportation
- 113 Routes
- 128 Square Miles
- City of Ann Arbor + 8 Townships
- 7,500 Miles Traveled





THE SCHOOL CLOSING DILEMMA

You are a superintendent who has been notified that the National Weather Service is predicting snow or ice and possibly dangerous driving conditions. You are aware that thousands of school children will be riding buses, and hundreds of teen-agers driving. You are also aware that, if nothing happens, you will be lambasted and mocked by parents and tax-payers. What do you do? Do you say, "I'll believe it when I see it", or do you cancel classes?

I can't speak for you, but I would rather be a fool fifty times, than be fatally wrong once.



Other Considerations

District-wide closures due to inclement weather

- The first **6** days are automatically forgiven due to conditions not within the control of school authorities.
- Up to **3** additional days are forgiven **as requested** due to conditions not within the control of school authorities.
- Days cannot be made up by adding hours to existing days.
- **Pending legislation** to forgive school closures January 29 - Feb 1 due to State of Emergency declaration.

Next Steps

District-wide closures due to inclement weather

- ❖ Ensure safety is ALWAYS our top priority.
- ❖ Remember the ultimate decision rests with the parent regarding attendance during inclement weather.
- ❖ Carry on with our process.
- ❖ Complete the waiver.
- ❖ Monitor progress of pending Legislation.
- ❖ Include Late Start consideration as a question on the District Climate Survey in Spring.

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