Prepare for Winter Weather

Emergency Closure

The decision to close school is not taken lightly by the Middleton School District. Safety for students and staff is a priority every day, and on days of inclement weather it is a top factor in determining whether or not to hold, delay or cancel school.

There are many variables considered and the process begins the day before and into the early morning hours.

- The day before a storm the superintendent follows the weather forecast and consults with maintenance, the bus contractor, and other area superintendents.
- 4 AM - The superintendent, Caldwell Transportation Company representative, and the maintenance director examine roads and schools independently. Snow removal often begins earlier.
- 4:30/5 AM - Superintendents from Caldwell, Vallivue, and Middleton share information on roads gathered from city/county/state road officials and decisions of opening, delaying or closing school.
- 5:30 AM - A final determination is made and if school is closed, the district notification to parents and staff is activated and notice is given to media, district website, social media, etc...

Frequently Asked Questions

Who makes the decision to close schools?

The Superintendent, in consultation with district maintenance and the Caldwell Transportation Company, makes the decision to close schools. Information is also gathered from road officials and neighboring school districts to assess conditions.

Does the Middleton School District lose funding on "snow days?"

No. Idaho law allows for a limited number of emergency closures without financial penalty or the need to make up days.

Why is the decision to open/close schools made at 5:30 AM?

The district must make the decision by 5:30 AM for several reasons. If school is going to close, 5:30 AM allows district officials to notify parents, staff and the community. If school is going to remain open the 5:30 AM time allows buses to meet their scheduled stops and for our food service department to be prepared for providing breakfast and lunch.