

HOW DOES THE WIND CHILL AFFECT SCHOOL BEING DELAYED OR CLOSED?

During the winter months, several factors come into play that could delay the start of school or cause school to be closed all together. On particularly cold mornings, we continuously monitor the National Weather Service and closely monitor the weather conditions as part of the decision-making process. The National Weather Service issues the following types of announcements related to weather temperature and wind chill.

Extreme Cold Watch – An Extreme Cold Watch is issued when dangerously cold air temperatures or wind chill values are possible. Boone County Schools will monitor the upcoming temperatures closely.

Cold Weather Advisory – A Cold Weather Advisory is issued when seasonably cold air temperatures or wind chill values, but not extremely cold values, are expected or occurring. Air temperatures or wind chill values at or below – 5 to -14 degrees. If there is a Cold Weather Advisory for Boone County, schools will likely be open unless there are operational challenges related to the buses or mechanical functions at the school buildings. Announcements related to a closure or delay will be made no later than 5:00 a.m. on the day in question.

Extreme Cold Warning – An Extreme Cold Warning is issued when dangerously cold air temperatures or wind chill values are expected or occurring. Air temperatures or wind chill values at or below -15 degrees. If there is an Extreme Cold Warning, heavy consideration will be given to either closing or delaying the start of school. Announcements related to a closure or delay will be made no later than 5:00 a.m. on the day in question.

When a Cold Weather Advisory or Extreme Cold Warning announcement has been issued, as a parent, if you determine that the weather conditions are too dangerous for your child, we respect your decision. Please make sure you contact the attendance office at your child's school to report the absence and to request the absence be excused. Our transportation department will adhere to bus route times as closely as possible to eliminate extended wait times in the cold weather. Use of the MyView Bus App is encouraged to track the location of your child's bus.

The safety of our staff and students is our top priority when making the decision to delay or close school. We can assure you that our school buildings are warm, safe and an ideal place for students to be when it is extremely cold outside. Parents should make sure their child is dressed appropriately for the cold weather. The district urges students to wear winter hats, gloves, heavy coats, and boots. Frostbite and hypothermia are serious risks and need to be taken into consideration by the parents.

To get more information on how the wind chill is calculated and suggestions for cold weather safety please see the National Weather Service information page.

<https://www.weather.gov/safety/cold-ww>

