

ACAA: Emergency Closings

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to delay the opening of, dismiss early, or close district schools in the event of hazardous weather, an epidemic, or other unexpected and extraordinary circumstances that threaten the health and/or safety of students and employees. The decision for an emergency closing shall not be arbitrary, capricious, or based merely on convenience.

The Superintendent shall, at a minimum, consider the following factors when exercising their authority under this policy:

1. Actual occurrence or imminent possibility of any emergency condition that would make operation of school difficult or dangerous.
2. Ability of students and staff to safely report to school. The Superintendent may consider items such as, but not limited to, weather and road conditions.
3. Whether or not conditions pose a threat to one or all district schools. If conditions only affect certain schools, only the affected schools shall be closed.

The Superintendent may consult traffic, weather, law enforcement authorities, and administrators from neighboring districts when weighing the above factors.

Notification

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for notifying students, parents, and staff of emergency closings, which should be published in district handbooks and disseminated annually.

Compliance

The Superintendent shall determine which district employees are required to report to work to ensure the operation of essential functions or departments during an emergency. Staff are expected to report for work unless unexpected and extraordinary conditions make this impossible. Staff that do not comply and/or do not have good cause for noncompliance may be subject to disciplinary consequences in accordance with policy, law, and, when applicable, the negotiated agreement.

Complementing NDSBA

- ACAA-AR, Telework Procedure
- FGDB, Student Handbooks