

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITY SAFETY**Purpose**

The Tracy Unified School District is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and staff. In accordance with California Education Code 33355, the District shall develop, implement, and maintain protocols for responding to extreme weather conditions that may impact student health, safety, and participation in outdoor activities.

These protocols apply to all schools, programs, athletic activities, physical education classes, recess periods, extracurricular activities, field trips, and other outdoor school-sponsored events.

Definitions of Extreme Weather Conditions

For purposes of this regulation, extreme weather conditions include environmental conditions that may pose a health or safety risk to students and staff, including but not limited to:

- Excessive heat
- Poor air quality
- Wildfire smoke
- Extreme cold
- High winds
- Lightning or severe storms
- Flooding or excessive precipitation
- Any weather-related emergency identified by local, county, state, or federal authorities

Excessive Heat

Extreme heat conditions shall generally be considered when:

- The National Weather Service issues a Heat Advisory, Excessive Heat Warning, or similar alert.
- The Heat Index or temperature reaches levels that may create health risks for students.
- Local conditions create elevated risk due to prolonged sun exposure or lack of adequate cooling resources.

Air Quality

Poor air quality conditions shall be evaluated using the Air Quality Index (AQI).

AQI	Condition	Outdoor Activity Guidance
0-100	Good to Moderate	Normal outdoor activities
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Modify strenuous activities for sensitive students
151-200	Unhealthy	Reduce strenuous outdoor activities
201-300	Very Unhealthy	Suspend outdoor physical activities
Above 300	Hazardous	All outdoor activities canceled

District administrators may impose additional restrictions based on local conditions, wildfire smoke, visibility concerns, or recommendations from public health agencies.

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITY SAFETY**Weather and Air Quality Monitoring Procedures**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that weather conditions are monitored daily when outdoor activities are scheduled.

Monitoring sources may include:

- National Weather Service (NWS)
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- AirNow.gov
- California Office of Emergency Services
- San Joaquin County Public Health Services
- Local emergency management agencies

Site administrators shall monitor conditions before school, during school hours, and prior to athletic events or outdoor activities.

Decision-Making Responsibilities**Superintendent or Designee**

The Superintendent or designee shall:

- Establish districtwide procedures.
- Coordinate with local agencies.
- Issue districtwide guidance during significant weather events.

Site Principal

The principal or designee shall:

- Monitor local conditions.
- Implement activity modifications or cancellations.
- Ensure communication with staff and families.
- Verify mitigation measures are available.

Coaches and Activity Supervisors

Coaches, physical education teachers, and activity supervisors shall:

- Follow District weather protocols.
- Monitor students for signs of distress.
- Modify or suspend activities when directed.

Criteria for Modifying or Canceling Outdoor Activities

Outdoor activities may be modified, relocated, postponed, or canceled when conditions create a health or safety risk.

Possible modifications include:

- Limiting activity duration

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- Increasing hydration breaks
- Reducing physical exertion
- Utilizing shaded areas
- Adjusting schedules to cooler times of day
- Moving activities indoors

Outdoor activities shall be suspended immediately if:

- Lightning is detected within the area.
- Air quality reaches hazardous levels.
- Excessive heat poses imminent health risks.
- Emergency officials issue evacuation or shelter-in-place directives.
- Conditions otherwise present a significant danger to students or staff.

Indoor Alternative Activity Plans

Each school site shall identify suitable indoor locations and activities that may be used during extreme weather conditions.

Alternative locations may include:

- Gymnasiums
- Multipurpose rooms
- Libraries
- Classrooms
- Covered facilities with adequate ventilation

Alternative activities should support instructional goals while minimizing health risks.

Communication Protocols

The District shall communicate weather-related activity changes in a timely manner.

Communication methods may include:

- ParentSquare
- District website
- Email notifications
- Phone notifications
- Social media platforms
- Staff communications

Notifications shall include:

- Description of weather conditions
- Activities affected
- Alternative arrangements
- Safety precautions being implemented

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Schools shall maintain reasonable mitigation measures, including:

- Access to drinking water
- Hydration stations
- Shaded areas
- Cooling areas during excessive heat
- Indoor facilities for relocation of activities
- Emergency response supplies

The District shall strive to provide equitable access to mitigation resources across all school sites. Site administrators shall periodically assess facilities and resources to ensure readiness during extreme weather events.

Staff Training Requirements

Annual training shall be provided to applicable staff regarding:

- District weather protocols
- Heat-related illnesses
- Air quality impacts
- Recognition of weather-related distress
- Emergency response procedures
- Student supervision during modified activities

Training shall be provided to:

- Administrators
- Teachers
- Coaches
- Classified staff supervising students
- Other designated personnel

Signs of Weather-Related Distress

Staff shall be trained to recognize symptoms including:

Heat-Related Illness

- Excessive sweating
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Fainting

Air Quality Distress

- Difficulty breathing
- Persistent coughing

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- Chest discomfort
- Asthma symptoms

Any student exhibiting symptoms shall receive immediate assistance and medical attention as appropriate.

Coordination with Local Agencies

The District shall maintain communication with:

- National Weather Service
- San Joaquin County Public Health Services
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- Local fire departments
- Emergency management agencies
- Law enforcement agencies

Such coordination shall support timely access to weather information, emergency notifications, and recommended safety measures.

Annual Review and Updates

The Superintendent or designee shall annually review these protocols and recommend revisions as necessary.

The review shall consider:

- Changes in state law or guidance
- Weather trends and local conditions
- Incident reports and response outcomes
- Stakeholder feedback
- Advances in health and safety practices

Updated protocols shall be communicated to staff and incorporated into District emergency preparedness planning.

Legal Reference

Education Code 33355