OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

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Winter Weather Information 2026-2027

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The following information is being provided to you as we prepare Mankato Area Public Schools' students and families for winter weather.

The decision to alter our instructional day due to weather includes a number of variables, but the center of our decision-making is always the safety of students and staff. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

School closing and early dismissal notices will be provided on the following websites, radio and television stations under the name "Mankato Area Public Schools". There will also be a recorded message on the **District Notification Line 507-387-6046.**

- www.isd77.org
- katoinfo.com
- KTOE
- KDOG
- KXAC
- KYSM-AM and FM
- KATO
- KXLP
- mankatofreepress.com
- southernminnesotanews.com
- KEEZ
- KMSU
- KRBI
- KMKO
- KRRW
- KFSP
- keyc.com
- KEYC 12 - TV
- KSTP-TV
- KARE 11-TV
- WCCO Radio and TV
- FOX 9/MY29-TV

You can also obtain information through the following resources:

- Follow on Facebook at: Mankato Area Public Schools
- Subscribe to receive emails at www.isd77.org; click on "Experience", "News & Publications"; click "Bell symbol"

If schools need to dismiss early, announcements will be made well before buses are scheduled to depart from schools. Please note: it takes approximately 1 1/2 hours for our transportation providers to implement an early departure.

The following guidelines are provided for your review and consideration:

- Given the severity of conditions, caregivers may wish to meet the bus at the bus stop.
- Families should have an alternate plan in the event buses are unable to return students to their homes.
- Students should always be appropriately dressed for the weather as emergencies may result in dangerous situations.
- Principals will excuse students whose parents/guardians request to pick up their child(ren) early. Please do not park in bus loading zones or block bus entrances or exits.
- On challenging winter weather days when school is open and on time, we trust families to make the best decision for their child(ren)'s safety and attendance. If your child will be staying home due to weather conditions, please call the school to report the absence. These absences will be **excused**, but your child will still be **marked absent** for the day. Because we care about every student's well-being and connection to learning, you may receive a call from school staff. Our goal is simply to check in, offer support and help connect your family with any resources you may need.

Safety is the top priority for all of us, and the school district appreciates your support as we work together to navigate our winter months.

Sincerely,

Paul Peterson, Ed.D.
Superintendent