

Inclement Weather Message For Staff

As the weather changes heading into the winter months, school may need to be cancelled for in-person learning due to inclement weather. However if in-person learning is cancelled we will transition to remote learning for all students on that school day. Much effort goes into the process described below to make the best call possible.

Our goal is to only alter the regular schedule when it is necessary for the safety and health of our students and employees. Students who walk to school or must stand outside in subfreezing temperatures, and motorists who must contend with snow, ice, or freezing fog play a considerable part in our decision. We must make a decision several hours before it is time to venture outside for school and work, and conditions can, and often do, change in the meantime.

The following is how the determination is made on a bad weather day:

- In the early morning hours, District personnel drive bus routes that include city streets, highways, and rural roads. They collect data from the National Weather Service, and neighboring district transportation directors. Their recommendations, based on years of experience, are the first step in making the decision.
- At 4 a.m., the transportation director calls the superintendent to report the status of bus operations and road conditions. The information from the above sources will be used to make the final decision.
- By 5:30 a.m. the decision is made to proceed as usual or transition to remote learning for the school day.
- If there is inclement weather that causes us to transition to remote learning, it will be posted on our website (www.gsd.wednet.edu) and reported to all local media outlets. A message will also be released to all staff and students via the district auto-dialer.
- If nothing is announced, then school will begin on time.

In the event schools are transitioned to remote learning for the day due to inclement weather, the following employees shall not be required to work on-site:

- Teachers and paraeducators

The following positions will contact their supervisor regarding the work schedule for the day:

- Cooks, 9-month custodians, building secretaries, bus drivers and any other employees on less than full-time (260-day) calendar.

Administrators, district office personnel, maintenance, I.T., bus mechanics and other 260-day employees will work on site but may choose to use leave (personal, vacation, or emergency). Please use caution and drive safely.

Weather is unpredictable, and we as a district do all we can to gather the most accurate information to make the safest choice possible.

Thanks,

Brian