

## DE SOTO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

723.3-Rule

### GUIDELINES FOR CLOSING SCHOOLS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

It is understood that the decision to close the schools because of bad weather is a very important one with many ramifications. The final decision for closing of schools due to inclement weather will be made by the District Administrator. Several variables must be considered before the final decision is made.

1. Weather Forecasts - The District Administrator will be responsible for obtaining this information by 5:30 a.m. if possible. Temperature, wind conditions and precipitation must be known well in advance of the start of school.
2. Road and Traffic Conditions - The District Administrator will check this out with the county traffic police and the county highway department. The transportation director or designee should personally test road conditions and also get readings from various drivers in other parts of the District. This information will be reported to the District Administrator by the transportation officer before 6:00 a.m. on days when hazardous conditions prevail.
3. After the weather and road conditions are known, there are three possibilities to be considered in case of bad weather.
  - a. School will remain open and all student transportation services will be provided.
  - b. School will be closed.
  - c. The time school starts will be delayed until weather and road conditions improve.
4. School Closing/Delay - After a decision to close school or delay the opening of school is made:
  - a. the decision will be made public via local radio and television stations from 6:15 to 8:00 a.m.;

- b. the transportation contractor will be notified.
5. Early Dismissal - If a storm develops or worsens during the day and the decision is made to close school early, the following procedure will be followed:
- a. The decision must be made at least one hour prior to the new closing time.
  - b. All building principals, both public and private, and all transportation contractors will be notified immediately.
  - c. Local radio and televisions stations will be notified to alert parents/guardians to the situation.

APPROVED:      October 8, 2001

REVISED:      April 14, 2008

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