

## TRANSPORTATION IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

It is the responsibility of each bus driver and the director of transportation to select only bus stops which provide 300 feet of unobstructed vision in normal weather conditions.

School district buses will not operate when weather conditions due to fog, rain, snow or other natural elements make it unsafe to do so. Because weather conditions may vary around the school district and may change quickly, the best judgment possible will be used with the information available.

During inclement weather it is the responsibility of the Superintendent, or designee, to determine whether school will be held or whether the buses will be sent out. The final judgment as to when conditions are unsafe to operate will be made by the superintendent. The superintendent will be assisted by the actual "on location" decisions and reports of the drivers and/or transportation director.

Usually if the weather is such that buses cannot safely travel, classes will either be delayed temporarily or not be held. It is also the responsibility of the Superintendent to determine if school needs to be dismissed early because of worsening weather conditions during the day. Employees, students, and parents will be notified by commercial radio, television, and other available communication tools when school is cancelled or temporarily delayed. When school is cancelled because of weather anywhere in the school district, all schools will be closed.

If the weather conditions vary across the district, such as patchy fog etc. it is the responsibility of the bus driver to determine whether a certain bus stop is safe. If the bus driver determines that it would be hazardous to stop at a certain place he or she should call either the director of transportation or the administration on the bus radio to make telephone arrangements with the home to have the student picked up at a safer location. If a particular location of a bus stop seems to be a likely place for conditions which may limit visibility it is the driver's responsibility to designate in advance an alternate stop during conditions of limited visibility.

When weather conditions deteriorate during the day after school has begun, cancellation notices will be announced by commercial radio, television, and other available communication tools. Students will be returned to their regular drop-off sites unless weather conditions prevent it. In that case, students will be kept at or returned to school until they are picked up by the parents.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 601.2 School Day

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