

EMERGENCY CLOSURE PROCEDURE

An Emergency school closure can occur for the following reasons:

1. Inclement weather
2. Facility problems (i.e., no power, heating problems etc)
3. Health Concerns (i.e., pandemic flu, etc.)
4. Crisis situations

During inclement weather, the decision is made as early as possible in the morning so that notification can be made by 6:00 AM whenever possible. During winter weather, the Transportation Supervisor is in contact with the various highway districts and personally drives roads of concern then calls the Superintendent with his recommendation regarding school closure or delay. The decision is based on the health and safety of students being transported on school buses.

As soon as a facility issue is discovered, it is analyzed by appropriate staff and a decision is made by the Superintendent as quickly as possible. During power outages the District is in contact with Avista to determine the extent of the outage. Sometimes a facility issue happens quickly and a decision cannot be made before 6:00 AM but is made prior to any buses picking up students.

Since health concerns develop over time, a school closure will usually be identified 12 hours or more before the closure is called. In the case of health concerns, the School District is in contact with the health Department and other authorities prior to making a final decision.

A crisis situation could occur before, during or after school and each issue must be individually analyzed. It is NOT district policy to close school for any reason and send students home, however in the event of such an emergency, students would be transported to another facility in Genesee and parents notified of the closure via telephone.

If winter weather deteriorates after school has begun for the day, there will be NO closure of school. We will not send students home to empty houses. Parents may always pick their children up from school. We will transport bus students back home if feasible. If not, personal

parent contact will be made and school authorities will supervise students at school in a safe environment until other arrangements can be made.

The Genesee School District strives to hold school whenever possible and only call an emergency closure when the situation demands such a closure. Idaho Code requires attendance at school for a minimum number of hours. Excessive closures can result in school days having to be made up by extending the school day or extending the school year.