



# Mitchell School District 17-2 POLICY

Category	Approval	
Series 300: Foundations and Basic Commitments	Adopted	Revised
	2/24/97	
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	1/08/01, 9/22/03, 9/24/07, 6/22/15, 6/10/19, 10/10/23	

## EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

**MSD 321**

The superintendent may close the schools or dismiss them early when hazardous weather, emergencies or other conditions threaten the health or safety of students and personnel. The superintendent may delegate this authority to another staff member in the event of his/her absence.

Action to close school should not be taken lightly. Public education is one of the principal functions of the community and should be maintained at a normal level except in extreme circumstances. When regularity of operation ceases, serious difficulties are caused and the welfare of children may be jeopardized.

Schools will not be closed merely to avoid inconvenience. However, the superintendent may excuse all students from attending school, delay the starting time, or dismiss students early. The superintendent also has the responsibility to see that administrative, supervisory, and operational activity is continued to the extent possible. Therefore, if conditions affect only a single school, only that school will be closed.

In making the decision to close schools, the superintendent will consider many factors, including the following that relate to the safety and health of children.

1. Weather conditions, both existing and predicted.
2. Driving, traffic, and parking conditions affecting public and private transportation facilities.
3. Actual occurrence or imminent possibility of any emergency condition that would make the operation of schools difficult or dangerous.
4. Inability of teaching and support personnel to report for duty, which might result in inadequate supervision of students.

The superintendent will consider these factors and take action to close schools after consultation with traffic, weather, and other local authorities.

Students, parents, and staff will be informed early in each school year of the procedures that will be used to notify them in case of emergency closing. When schools are closed for emergency reasons, staff members will comply with negotiated agreements in reporting for work.