



TRANSPORTATION – INCLEMENT WEATHER

Policy G.3.E

Student safety is a high priority with Frontier School Division. The Division also recognizes that due to the vast geographical area it covers, schools often experience significantly different weather conditions during the same period of time.

The policy on inclement weather is intended to take this into account through being proactive by providing direction and guidelines for School and Division personnel in taking appropriate action in the event of inclement and/or hazardous weather.

The Division acknowledges and respects that the parent or legal guardian has the discretion to decide if the student(s) travel by school bus and/or attend school during inclement/hazardous weather and/or road conditions.

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| Adopted September 1, 2019 | | |
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The Bus Driver, Transportation Coordinator, School Principal, Area Superintendent, and/or other affected personnel will follow the procedures outline herein.

1. Definition Inclement / Hazardous Weather and Road Conditions

Inclement / hazardous weather and road conditions are defined as any one or more of the following:

- The temperature reaches -45C or the wind chill reaches -50C,
- Road and/or visibility conditions due to fog, blowing snow, heavy snowfall or ice that make travel on roads dangerous.

2. Procedures

a. Local Bus Service Cancellation (Morning)

- i. The Principal will contact the appropriate Area Superintendent to receive authorization for cancellation of bus service.
- ii. If the Area Superintendent is unavailable the Principal will call, in the following order, the Transportation Coordinator, Chief Superintendent, or Secretary-Treasurer.
- iii. When a decision has been made to cancel bus service, the Principal shall immediately notify parents/guardians and the community.
- iv. If, during the school day, the weather becomes inclement and bus service is cancelled, the Principal shall ensure that parents/guardians are notified and suitable arrangements for students have been made.
- v. When extreme road conditions exist, bus drivers, in conjunction with the Principal, have the authority to cancel their bus route. The Principal will immediately inform the parents/guardians. The Principal will also communicate this decision to the Area Superintendent and the Transportation Coordinator.
- vi. Staff are expected to be in school working when bus service is cancelled, unless otherwise informed. There may be occasions when staff, due to circumstances, shall be informed by the Principal or the Area Superintendent to report to an alternative and appropriate location.

- vii. At the beginning of each school year, Principals and School Committees shall review this policy.
- viii. Each year, Principals shall review this policy with parents/guardians and community members.

b. Extra-Curricular Travel

- i. The Principal in conjunction with the Area Superintendent and/or Transportation Coordinator will cancel extra-curricular, sport or educational trip in the event of inclement weather or road conditions.
- ii. The School Principal will be responsible to ensure teachers, students and parents/guardians are notified of the trip cancellation.
- iii. If weather becomes inclement or road conditions become hazardous during an extra-curricular, sport or educational trip, the Bus Driver and Supervising Teacher will make every effort to consult with the Principal and/or Transportation Coordinator prior to making any changes to an extra-curricular route or schedule. The Principal will be responsible for ensuring parents/guardians are informed of any changes.

c. Communicating Bus Service Cancellation

- i. At the beginning of each school year, every school shall determine the most effective way of informing their parents/guardians and community of bus service cancellation. This plan needs to be submitted to the Area Superintendent for review.
- ii. School Principals are responsible for ensuring this communication occurs in a timely manner.
- iii. In the event an individual bus route, as a result of inclement weather, is changed or cancelled, the Principal will be responsible for informing parents/guardians immediately.

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| Adopted September 1, 2019 | | |
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