

WHEN AND HOW IS SCHOOL CLOSED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER?

As the winter season approaches, we will begin to enter that part of the school year when we experience our most inclement weather. We want to take this opportunity to provide you the information on how decisions are made and communicated when the weather is severe. The safety of our students is our top priority, and we always follow a set of guidelines to make decisions about whether the schools will be open or closed.

The decision to operate is one of the most difficult and challenging decisions we face. The district must make a decision that is best for all students. We realize, at times, our decisions may not fit with your individual circumstances. Therefore, we encourage and strongly support you in making the decision that is best for your child. Parents are always the best judge of their children's health and safety.

We try to keep schools open.

When schools close, many families have issues with child care. As a result, we try to keep schools open if it safe to do so. We all seem to work and function better on a regular schedule, if at all possible.

How do we decide whether or not to close due to snow, ice, and/or extreme cold?

The district monitors weather conditions beginning early in the morning and consults with the National Weather Service, Meteorologists, Law Enforcement Agencies and the Anderson Emergency Management Center. Additionally, principals and administrators drive many miles of roads between 4:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. and advise the superintendent of the road conditions. We will also confer with the superintendents from the other four districts in the county, and when possible, we will make the same decision.

When will the decision be made?

The Anderson School District One administration makes the decision whether to close schools by 6:00 a.m. or earlier in order to communicate with families in a timely manner.

How can you find out if schools are closed?

The district will send an Edulink message via email, phone and/or text message if you provided this information during enrollment. Additionally, you can listen to the local television stations, WYFF Channel 4, WSPA Channel 7, and Fox News Channel 21. Furthermore, you can visit the district website asd1.schoolwires.com and facebook page for inclement weather information. As a reminder, **if we are operating on schedule, no announcement will be made.**

When schools are closed, are other activities cancelled as well?

When Anderson School District One is closed for the day, it also means that all activities scheduled in school buildings for that day are cancelled. This includes after school programs, extra-curricular and/or athletic activities.

What happens when schools are dismissed early due to bad weather?

Generally, once a school day has started, Anderson One tries not to dismiss early to avoid complications with transportation and child care arrangements. However, if we are forced to dismiss early because of weather conditions, we will give as much advance warning as possible. We know many of our parents work, and we don't want our children sent to empty homes.

Finally, we ask for your support in making these sometime difficult situations operate as smoothly as possible. We all care about the safety of our children; and if we work together, we can make these situations much more tolerable.

Remember that you are at liberty to make the final decision regarding your children. If you are uncomfortable with our decision, you may make the decision that is best for your individual family. We pledge to do our utmost to keep the best interests of the children in mind as we make these challenging decisions.

This letter will be posted on our district website asd1.schoolwires.com under the “For Parents” link as Inclement Weather Instructions.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation.

David C. Havird
Superintendent