

- **BOARD OF EDUCATION**
- **School District No. 57**
- 2100 Ferry Avenue
- Prince George, B.C. V2L 4R5
- (250) 561-6800

- **POLICY**
- **3541.35**

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- **WINTER WEATHER**
- APPROVED: 1982.12.14
- REVISED: 1991.10.29
- 1994.12.06
- 1996.06.11
- 1999.01.26
- 2008.09.23

- ***POLICY***

- Student safety shall be the primary concern that determines actions taken as a result of cold or inclement winter weather.

- Responsibility Centre: Assistant Superintendents

- References: *School Act*, Sections 73 and 85

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- ***PREAMBLE***

- School operational procedures and expectations regarding staff and student attendance during severe winter weather must be clarified.

- Approved: 1999.01.26

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- ***REGULATIONS:***

- 1. Schools shall not be closed because of cold or inclement weather.
- 2. On days when student attendance is reduced substantially because of cold or inclement weather conditions or because travel is considered treacherous, regular scheduled instruction may be modified for those students who attend school. The administrative procedures of this policy provide assistance to the principal and teachers in determining the educational program that will be offered.
- 3. School bus service will not be cancelled because of cold weather.
- 4. Individual bus runs may be cancelled for the day (morning and afternoon runs) because of dangerous road conditions. Cancellations will be announced on local radio as soon as possible after the decision to cancel a run is made.
- 5. The decision to keep a student at home for the day because of winter weather conditions shall be made by the parents.
- 6. Students shall not be expected to wait for a school bus for more than fifteen minutes past the scheduled pick-up time. If the bus has not arrived by that time, students should return to their homes or to another prearranged place of shelter.
- 7. Notwithstanding Regulation 1, school closures may be required for reasons other

- than wither weather. See Policy 6114 (Emergency Situations in Schools).
- 8. School staff are expected to attend school on their scheduled work days.
- However, if a staff member is unable to travel to work because of weather or road conditions, a discretionary day, vacation or leave without pay will be granted, as applicable, in accordance with the relevant collective agreement.
- Staff are expected to make every reasonable effort to travel to work, but should not place themselves at undue risk in attempting to do so.
- 9. Staff members who are unable to travel to school because of road conditions must inform their principal at the earliest time possible.
- 10. Principals will ensure that parents are informed about Regulations 1 through 6 each fall and periodically through the winter months.

Approved: 1982.12.14

Revised: 1991.10.29, 1994.12.06, 1996.06.11, 2008.09.23

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ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES:

- 1. On days when student attendance is reduced because of weather conditions, schools should consider the following options:
- 1.1. Regular instruction.
- 1.2. Modified instruction.
- 1.3. Review sessions.
- 1.4. Work completion sessions.
- 1.5. Individual or small group instruction.
- 1.6. Special research projects.
- 1.7. Directed study sessions.
- 1.8. Multi-age grouping for instruction.
- 1.9. Student tutorials.
- 1.10. Supervised study and/or activity sessions.
- 1.11. Some combination of the above.
- 2. In advance of the cold weather months, schools should consult with parents and clearly communicate to parents what educational alternatives the school will offer in the event of low attendance caused by excessively cold weather.

Approved: 1991.10.29

Revised: 1984.12.06, 1996.06.11

- Sue Taylor
- Elementary Sr. Secretary
- Ron Brent School