

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The superintendent or superintendent's designee may order the closing, the delay in opening or the early dismissal of any or all schools in order to protect the safety and welfare of the students and staff.

Unless employees are notified that their work schedule is changed because of adverse weather or emergency conditions, it is expected that all employees will work according to the terms of their contract and division policy.

During adverse weather or emergency conditions, employees follow guidelines from the superintendent related to work schedules. The guidelines may be reviewed by the school board.

Adopted: April 8, 2019

Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-70, 22.1-78, 22.1-98.

Cross Ref.: GAA Staff Time Schedules

INSTRUCTION

Emergency Closing of Schools

A. Closing of School Because of Inclement Weather/Other Emergencies

1. Prior to School Session

Every attempt will be made to reach a decision by 6:00 a.m. When a decision is made the radio stations and television stations will be informed and asked to disseminate the information. When feasible the announcement will be made the night before.

Once a decision is made to close the schools because of inclement weather, one of the following two decisions will be made and announced:

(a) The entire school division will be closed for all personnel due to severe weather conditions with the exception of certain custodial and maintenance personnel with whom arrangements will be made separately.

(b) Schools will be closed for students but all twelve-month employees work as usual.

2. During School Session

In those cases when severe weather conditions or other potential emergencies may have implications affecting the closing of schools, the decision to continue operation or to close the schools is made by the superintendent. This decision is based primarily upon the consideration of student welfare and safety. During that period of time that the schools are in session the responsibility for the safety and supervision of students as well as for their instruction is incumbent upon every staff member. No teacher or other professional employee is authorized to leave his or her assigned duties until this responsibility has been fulfilled.

Any deviation from this procedure is to be reported to the superintendent by the principal for such corrective action as may be appropriate.

Approved by Superintendent: June 9, 1986