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Cold Weather Guidelines for Administrators

The wind chill temperature is how cold people and animals feel when outside. Wind chill is based on the rate of heat loss from exposed skin caused by wind and cold. As the wind increases, it draws heat from the body, driving down skin temperature and eventually the internal body temperature. Therefore, the wind makes it feel much colder.

How Cold is Too Cold?

Four factors contribute to cold stress: cold temperatures, high or cold wind, dampness, and cold water. A cold environment forces the body to work harder to maintain its temperature. Cold air, water, and snow all draw heat from the body. Wind chill is the combination of air temperature and wind speed.

Weather Guidelines

When a Wind Chill Advisory is issued by the National Weather Service and the wind chill is -20°F or below, and the air temperature is 0°F or below, school officials will consider the delay or cancellation of the school day. The decision to delay or cancel school is made by the superintendent or their designee.

Elementary students will not travel between buildings or have outside recess when a Wind Chill Advisory is in effect or when the temperature is 15°F or lower.

Swimming lessons for middle school students will be cancelled when a Wind Chill Advisory is in effect or when the temperature is 15°F or lower.

Middle school students will not walk to and from the high school for lunch when a Wind Chill Advisory is in effect or when the temperature is 0°F or lower. Bus service will be provided.

Parental Responsibilities

Students should dress appropriately for cold weather. Coats, hats, and gloves are recommended so students remain warm and comfortable while outside.