

Prepare for Winter Weather

Emergency Closure

The decision to close school is not taken lightly by the Notus School District. Safety for students and staff is a top priority every day, and on days of inclement weather it is the top factor in determining whether or not to hold, delay or cancel school.

There are many variables considered and the process begins the day before and into the early morning hours.

- ★ The day before a storm the superintendent follows the weather forecast and consults with maintenance (ABM), the transportation department, and other area superintendents.
- ★ 5 AM - The superintendent, a transportation department representative, and the Maintenance and Grounds Supervisor examine roads and schools independently. Snow removal often begins earlier in the morning.
- ★ 5/5:30 AM - Superintendents from Parma, Wilder, Homedale and COSSA share information on roads gathered from city/county/state road officials and decisions of opening, delaying or closing schools
- ★ 6:00 AM - A final determination is made and if school is closed or delayed, the district notification to parents and staff is activated and notice is given to the media, district website, social media, etc/

Please check our website (www.notusschools.org) for emergency alerts as well as your email, phone and text messages.

Frequently Asked Questions

- ★ **Who makes the decision to close schools?**
 - The Superintendent, in consultation with maintenance (ABM) and the transportation department, makes the decision to close schools. Information is also gathered from road officials and neighboring school districts to assess conditions.
- ★ **Does the Notus School District lose funding on “snow days”?**
 - No. Idaho law allows for a limited number of emergency closures without financial penalty or the need to make up the days.
- ★ **Why is the decision to open/close schools made by 6:00 AM?**
 - The district must make the decision by 6:00 AM for several reasons. If school is going to be closed or delayed, 6:00 AM allows district officials to notify parents, staff and the community. If school is going to remain open the 6:00 AM time allows buses to meet their scheduled stops and for our food service department to be prepared for providing breakfast and lunch.