



January 27, 2019

Dear Parents,

Just when we thought we would get through the winter without winter weather, Mother Nature decided to give us a reminder of what winter is! This weather is unbelievable. The purpose of this communication is to share with you my thoughts about school this week, the weather and the considerations used in determining whether to cancel school. I work with 4 other charter school superintendents and the county road commission when making the decision to cancel school. We have been monitoring the weather reports and will continue to do so throughout the weekend.

The resources I utilize to inform me of weather conditions are confident that we are going to receive 6-11 inches of snow starting Monday morning and lasting throughout the day. The heaviest snow will fall after 1 p.m. In addition, we are projected to receive some relatively strong wind gusts, causing blowing, drifting and blizzard conditions which will create icy roads. Later in the week we will see possible wind chill temperatures of -20 to -30 degrees. This will occur on Wednesday and Thursday. Regarding the temperature we use to cancel school, it is set at -20 (temperature and/or wind chill).

I believe there is a strong possibility that we will have several days where we cancel school this upcoming week. We will do everything we can to make the decision as early as possible. As always, parents are notified via the following methods:

1. School Facebook Page
2. Power School Roto call/text/email
3. Local News Media (Channel 12)

When there is a school cancellation, after school activities are automatically cancelled.

What does this mean regarding our school calendar? We have currently used 4 of our inclement weather days. The state gives us 6 days without penalty. What will likely happen is that we will use the professional development days that we have in the calendar (if needed) to regain school days. At this point, I am not sure how many days we will be in school this week, however, if we have school please make sure to send your child. On Friday of last week, we did not have enough students in attendance to meet the 75% requirement of the state. I understand that you may not see the importance of sending your child on the last day of the week, but every minute your child misses in school is a lost learning opportunity. Please make your child's education a priority and make sure he/she attends school every day that school is in session.

Snow days can be fun if the weather permits outside play. Unfortunately, it looks like this time it will be dangerously cold outside. I know that the kids will complain, and probably try to drive you crazy, so I have included a couple of websites for you, one is for educational websites you can access for free and another is for some fun, inexpensive ways to fill the day.

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/best-free-educational-websites-for-kids-3129084>

<https://thesimpleparent.com/snow-day-activities-to-do-outside/>

I will keep you updated via Facebook, roto calls and channel 12. Stay warm, stay safe and prepare yourself for this winter storm.

Mrs. Haldy
Superintendent
Richfield Public School Academy