



EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS

Procedure for Tooele County School District

July 5, 2011

Procedures for Emergency Closure of Schools - Including Pandemic or Weather Emergency:

1. It is the belief of Tooele County School District (TCSD) that it is in the best interests of students, families, communities, and school staff that schools remain open as much as possible. The closing of any school creates hardships in many ways: instructional continuity, employee salary, daycare and child supervision, work schedules for parents, etc. In recognizing these needs Tooele County School District will follow these general guidelines:
 - a. Schools would only be closed after a consultation with the Tooele County Board of Education and Tooele School District Superintendent Executive Staff (SES).
 - b. Schools would be closed on a case-by-case, school-by-school basis, not an entire district closure unless warranted from outside agency (Tooele County Health Department [TCHD], Tooele County Emergency Management, or other State and Federal Agencies because of extreme emergency).
2. Schools closed because of a pandemic or other illness emergency will be done in conjunction with TCHD, TCSD, and Tooele County Board of Education. Schools would be closed on a case by case, school by school basis according to need.
3. Schools closed because of weather conditions will follow this protocol:
 - a. Schools impacted by extreme weather conditions will close on a school-by-school decision as determined by TCSD Administration and Tooele Board of Education.
 - b. Whenever it is reasonably possible, schools will continue as normally scheduled. Should a normal schedule not be possible, options to implement will include the following with school closure as the last option:
 - 1) Move to a two-hour Inclement Weather Late Start. Schools affected by weather would begin two hours later than normal. Dismissal would be at regular time for the day.
 - 2) Buses will run if possible. If not, buses in the Vernon, Rush Valley, or other outlying areas would not run and the affected students would be excused for the day.
 - 3) Should the weather not allow for a two-hour late start, SES and Tooele County Board of Education will make a decision of which schools will be closed.
 - 4) Should any schools be closed or on a two-hour delay start, TCSD will notify all households by telephone (using TCSD's call out system) of the action being taken. Notification will be made as soon as is reasonably possible. Information will also be on the website and broadcast over approved media outlets.
4. The Superintendent of Schools and the Tooele County Board of Education have all final decisions as to school closure.