

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The District Administrator, or an administrative-level designee in the temporary absence or unavailability of the District Administrator, shall make decisions regarding school closings, delayed starts, early releases, and any program or activity cancelations due to inclement weather or due to other health or safety concerns. Examples of other health or safety concerns include a communicable disease outbreak, a credible threat to safety, damage to a building, or utility failure.

Inclement Weather

The District Administrator, or an administrative-level designee shall make the decision whether to close school due to inclement weather.

Remote/Virtual Learning During School Closure

The District Administrator may direct a full or partial day of remote/virtual learning for the district or for one or more buildings in the district on any day school is closed due to this policy, subject to the following requirements and limitations.

1. The District Administrator shall determine that the school has an adequate instructional plan established for all affected students, including planning for appropriate accommodations based on individual student need, such that the district may appropriately designate all or a material portion of the day as hours/minutes of direct student instruction.
2. Administration shall not shift any students to remote/virtual learning until the number of days of school missed makes the district short on required hours of instruction.
3. Administration shall determine the daily schedule of any such full or partial days of remote/virtual learning and the number of hours/minutes that may appropriately be counted as hours of direct student instruction.
4. Subject to the reason for the school closure and applicable safety considerations, the administration may also determine that some students with special educational needs may be permitted to receive instruction or services at the school or on an alternate day.

Make-Up Days / Hours for Students

When any District school has been closed for a full or partial day under this policy and scheduled hours/minutes of direct student instruction has been lost (i.e. – school was closed and the scheduled in-person instructional time was not replaced, in whole or in part, with remote/virtual instruction), additional school days or extended hours for affected students will not be added to the school calendar/schedule unless additional instructional time is required to meet a state or federal requirement.

Subject to the requirements of this policy, the administration may determine whether such make-up days or make-up hours of instruction will be conducted in person, through remote/virtual instruction, or by using a combination of both approaches.

The School District of Amery will be prepared for virtual instruction in the event of a school closure. Under this scenario, hours of instruction should be based on the time teachers are available to students and the school district's estimate of the amount of time needed to accomplish learning objectives for each day of instruction.

Before-School and After-School Activities and Programs

When the School District of Amery is closed for a full or partial day due to inclement weather:

1. For a delayed start, all before-school activities and programs at the affected schools shall be cancelled for the day. After-school and evening activities and programs will be held as scheduled unless specifically cancelled by a separate announcement.
2. For an early release, all after-school and evening activities and programs that were scheduled to take place at the affected school(s) shall be cancelled for the day, except those that the administration shall clearly specify as an exception.
3. When district schools have been closed for the full day due to inclement weather, all before-school activities and after school events shall be cancelled, except those deemed to be exceptions by the District Administrator. An exception to hold an after-school event or evening event should only be made if weather conditions have substantially improved.

The standards listed immediately above for inclement weather situations apply to all District-sponsored activities and programs involving students, all community education activities or programs that are scheduled to take place at a district facility, and to all previously approved third party use of district facilities.

When a school building or other district facility is closed for a reason other than inclement weather, the holding of previously scheduled activities and programs shall be addressed by the administration on a case-by-case basis. In addition, regardless of whether school was held for students on a particular day, the administration may decide to cancel any district-sponsored activity or program, or any event that is scheduled to take place at a district-controlled facility, in order to address a concern with health or safety or with the condition of the school property.

LEGAL REF: Sections 115.01 (10) Wisconsin Statutes
 121.02 (1) Wisconsin Statutes
 PI 8.01(2)(f)(1) Wisconsin Statutes

CROSS REF: Board Policy - 321 School Calendar

APPROVED: March 11, 1996

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