

October 23, 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

As we move into the winter months we recognize that there is a high likelihood that we will experience inclement weather that will affect our LRSD families. Our division staff understands that our decision to open or close schools in bad weather has an impact on families. As always, our top priority is the safety of our students and staff. Below we have outlined some information that will help you understand how we make our decisions in dealing with inclement weather, and how we work together to best serve the needs and ensure the safety of our students.

1. Decisions will be made as soon as possible when deciding to keep schools open or close schools for the day.
2. For the safety of students, it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that children are suitably dressed for winter weather conditions.
3. During inclement weather, school buses may be cancelled when it is determined that it is unsafe for bus operators to transport students. Decisions will be made as soon as possible; however, some bus routes do not begin until after 7:00 a.m.
 - a. Buses are cancelled on a route-by-route basis. Just because one bus in an area is cancelled does not mean that others are. Bus information is available on the Division website by clicking on the bus icon on the top right of the LRSD home page. Ideally, this information will be available as early as possible; however, in most circumstances it will be updated by 7:30 a.m.
 - b. When school is open and buses are cancelled, parent(s)/guardian(s) make the final decision whether or not to take their children to school.
 - c. In the absence of school bus transportation, please be aware that it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure a child arrives to and from school safely. If buses do not operate in the morning, they will not operate at the end of the school day.
 - d. If parent(s)/guardian(s) at any time feel that travel conditions are unsafe, they should not allow their child to drive to school, walk to school or ride the bus.
4. Although at times, some or all buses may be cancelled, if schools remain open, classes will still be held. When attendance at school is low due to inclement weather, teachers are asked to provide meaningful instruction in the form of review, practice, and enrichment. Any essential learning or activities that occur will be replicated for absent students upon their return.
5. In the event of a school closure, LRSD will make every effort to notify families using our website, school and/or division social media channels as well as the school's automated messaging system. To ensure your child's safety, please confirm that schools are open before sending your child to school.



We want our LRSD families to understand that the decision to close schools or leave them open is complex and takes into account many factors, including the current and short-term weather forecasts, road conditions and visibility, and the number of staff that are able to safely reach the school. We want to reiterate that the welfare and safety of students, as well as our ability to provide meaningful instruction for students, is extremely important to us. To this end, we assure you that we will always manage inclement weather conditions and decisions in the best interest of our staff and students and make the best decisions that we can with the information we have at the time. We appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darryl Seguin".

Darryl Seguin
Superintendent