



# ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday, January 8, 2019

Dear EES Families,



## Snow

The winter snow has arrived! Since we don't have a newsletter scheduled to go out until late next week, we wanted to send out a reminder about our expectations around sledding. If we have a significant amount of snow accumulate overnight, we will allow students to slide down the hill to the field. We only allow this during recess and lunch breaks (not before or after school) and we only allow students to slide down on a sliding device and they must be wearing snow clothes (waterproof pants and coat, boots, gloves, etc.)! Our expectation is that snow has to cover the ground completely (no grass showing) in order to slide. We will set up a coned area for the students to slide down and expect them to wait until previous sliders have exited the area before sliding. We ask students to walk back up the hill on either side of the coned off area.

We do allow students to bring items to slide on, but please note that they are not stored inside the school. Teachers will be asking students to leave their sliding devices on the walkway outside the classroom during instructional time. Please make sure your child's sled is labelled clearly with their name!

Please also take caution and drive slowly in our new parking area. There is a slight incline and we haven't had it open long enough to know where the slippery spots will be.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

### **Inclement Weather Procedures Reminder for Parents:**

During this time of season, inclement weather may affect the safety and welfare of students. When snowfall or power outages have the potential to cause school closures, classes to be postponed, or School District bus services to be disrupted, alerts will be posted as quickly as possible on the district website (as power permits). The information will also be forwarded to media outlets.

Before a decision is made about whether buses will be running, or schools will remain open or be closed, the Superintendent consults with the General Manager of Operations. These administrators take the current and forecasted weather into consideration, and are in communication with Highways Maintenance, our own crews, and other community members who can verify local conditions. District staff will be considering current road and weather conditions, and also whether schools have power. Freezing weather overnight may mean that conditions are hazardous for travel.

It is our intention to make decisions on whether or not buses or schools are operating by 6:15 am, and to have these decisions communicated to local media outlets by 6:30 am. Communication is by telephone contact, followed up by an e-mail message.

Parents/Guardians should continue to monitor their local media for any weather-related updates and the potential impact on school district operations (i.e. bus operations or school closures).

Parents/Guardians are also reminded to keep battery-operated radios handy and land line telephones plugged in to prepare for power outages. Since weather conditions can be very different in the various communities that make up our school district, we recommend parents/guardians exercise their judgement based on their own local circumstance when making the decision whether to send or drive their children to school. If a decision is made by the District to keep schools open but parents/guardians are concerned about safety issues, they are welcome to keep their children home.

*See also attached Board Policy 7160: Emergency Closure of Schools (Student)*

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