



# QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **Inclement Weather Procedures Reminder for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers:**

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 local media outlets and conveyed through School Messenger\*.

Before a decision is made about whether buses will be running, or schools will remain open or be closed, the Superintendent consults with the Director 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.

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.

### **\*SchoolMessenger - Opt In/Out/Set Preferences**

Sign up for SchoolMessenger at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home>

or download one of the following apps on your phone:

Apple App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/schoolmessenger-infocenter/id978894818>

Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.schoolmessenger.recipient>

*See also Administrative Procedure: Emergency Closure of Schools (Student) under Board Policy 708: Emergency Preparedness and Closures*

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Board/Policies-and-Bylaws/Bylaws-Policies-and-Administrative-Procedures/700%20Student%20Services/708%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20and%20Closures.pdf>