

# Severe Cold Response Plans

## Wind Chill Warning

**Schools will be closed under the condition of a wind chill warning.** A wind chill warning indicates that life-threatening conditions and a risk to safety exists. Measures should be taken to safeguard life and property immediately. A wind chill warning is typically issued when the wind chill will be  $-30$  degrees Fahrenheit or colder OR the actual air temperature is  $-15^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

## Wind Chill Advisory

A wind chill advisory is issued when conditions do not meet the wind chill warning criteria but still cause significant inconvenience. The weather during a wind chill advisory is not life threatening but presents conditions that may result in inconveniences or pose moderate risk to safety. A wind chill advisory is typically issued when the wind chill is  $-20$  degrees Fahrenheit or colder.



## Severe Cold School Closure: Wind Chill Warning

- Classes will be cancelled and school closure protocols will be instituted
- All notification systems will be leveraged to send school cancellation communications to families
- Extracurricular activities will be suspended while the wind chill warning is in effect

### GENERAL RANGE

*Wind chills*  
 $-30^{\circ}\text{F}$  or less  
**or**  
*Actual air temperature*  
 $-15^{\circ}\text{F}$  or less

## Severe Cold Action: Wind Chill Advisory

- Schools will be open and student attendance is expected
- When safety allows, buses will pick up all student walkers regardless of route assignment
- Fire and Police will be notified prior to the start of the school day of the **Severe Cold Action** designation
- School administrators will be given authority to keep students in the building in the event of a fire alarm and will relocate students to a safe location within the building; in the event of an evacuation, administrators will institute parallel evacuation protocols to return students to a safe interior location
- Extracurricular activities will be evaluated and may be suspended if conditions persist; updates will be posted on each school's website
- All off-campus activities will be suspended (this includes but is not limited to: all off-site daytime programs, field trips, and work programs)
- Scheduled student transports between buildings will be assessed
- All outside student activities will be suspended
- All lab-based activities that have potential to cause fire or smoke alarm activation will be reevaluated or rescheduled; communication and coordination with the impacted departments will be conducted by building administration
- Students will be allowed to keep outerwear with them while in the building
- Schools will make announcements to provide access to donated outerwear to all students



### GENERAL RANGE

*Wind chills*  
 $-20^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $-29^{\circ}\text{F}$   
**or**  
*Actual air temperature*  
 $-5^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $-14^{\circ}\text{F}$

**NOTE:** The National Weather Service (NWS) will be the meteorological source to determine and declare a wind chill warning or wind chill advisory. <http://www.weather.gov/>

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