

CHAPTER 9

9.12 Emergency School Closing (Revised 03/14/95)

Marshall County Schools shall be in session during ordinary snows or cold weather. However, certain hazardous conditions, such as deep or drifting snow, extremely cold weather with severe wind chill hazard, or icy or flooded conditions, may warrant emergency closing.

The Superintendent shall have the authority to close any or all schools during such hazardous weather conditions or conditions that preclude the health and safety of children in their buildings. In his/her absence closure shall be the responsibility of the superintendent's designee or the General Supervisor and the Director of Transportation in cooperation with advisory help provided by the local office of the West Virginia State Department of Highways, West Virginia Department of Public Safety, and Official Weather Bureaus.

Some buses may not run on a particular route due to the condition of the road. This will be at the discretion of the driver concerned and with the approval of the General Supervisor and the Director of Transportation or the Superintendent. In the event a driver cannot make his/her run, he/she shall notify all pupils on his/her route who have telephones.

According to school law, pupils missing school because of failure of a bus to run will be marked absent. However, it is to be marked as an excused absence. When a large number of pupils are absent from a class due to failure of buses to run, the teacher should give little, if any, new work. If new work is given, absent pupils shall be given the opportunity to make up the work. When buses run during snows or cold weather, parents should use their own judgment about sending their children to school.

Students may be sent home early when there is danger of road or weather conditions causing them to possibly not reach home if school continued in session for the full day. Students may also be dismissed and sent home early in case of other potentially hazardous conditions.

In case it should be necessary to close schools due to hazardous weather or road conditions, the Superintendent shall come to a decision early enough for proper notification of all bus drivers and principals.

Announcements of all Emergency School Closings will be made repeatedly over area radio and television stations, and by special emergency telephone (843-4424).

It shall be assumed that schools will be in session if there are no announcements from the Superintendent concerning the closing of school.

School closings will be in compliance with Section 4.1.16.1 of this manual.

In the event of emergency situations in a particular school, the principal shall notify the Superintendent or his/her representative and then shall provide adequate remedial measures to protect the health and safety of the students in his/her school.
(See also: Appendix I)

9.12.1 Graduate Course Exemption (Adopted 02/13/90)

West Virginia University Graduate courses conducted at John Marshall High Schools are to be exempt from Marshall County Schools' policy for school closing because of inclement weather.