

November 11, 2015

MEDIA RELEASE: School District of the Menomonie Area

School Closings Due to Inclement Weather

Winter weather will soon be upon us. I would like to review with you the process that is utilized when schools are closed due to inclement weather (snow, ice, etc.).

Weather and road reports are monitored the evening prior to and the morning of those days when it appears that weather conditions might warrant school closings. A network of communications also occurs, including conversations with area bus company personnel, school superintendents, and highway departments. A decision to proceed with caution, delay, or cancel will be made as soon as possible.

During a delay, bus routes and school openings are delayed by the amount of time school is delayed. School openings may be delayed one or two hours. With delays, most of the day's instructional time can be preserved. A delay may be upgraded to a school closing, so it is important to stay tuned to radio or TV stations during the delay. Parents are encouraged to have a plan for late start and early dismissal situations.

Sometimes school is in session and weather conditions warrant early release. When a decision is made to close schools or release early, all extracurricular activities are cancelled and radio and TV announcements are made indicating the time students are dismissed from our schools. Bus transportation is provided at that time for eligible students.

If schools are closed or the start of school is delayed, a phone call and email is sent to all contacts in our student information system. In addition, announcements will be posted on the school district website at www.sdmaonline.com and aired on the following radio and television stations:

Radio Stations:

B-95 (WQRB)	Eau Claire	95.1 FM
I-94	Eau Claire	94.1 FM
Moose Country WATQ-FM	Eau Claire	106.7 FM
Classic Rock 92.1	Eau Claire	92.1 FM
Sports Radio WBIZ	Eau Claire	1400 AM
The Mix (WISM)	Eau Claire	98.1 FM
WAXX FM	Eau Claire	104.5 FM
WAYY AM	Eau Claire	790 AM
WCCO AM	Twin Cities	830 AM
WWIB	Eau Claire/Chippewa Falls	103.7 FM
Z-100 (WBIZ-FM)	Eau Claire	100.7 FM

TV Stations:

WEAU-TV	Eau Claire	Channel 13
WQOW-TV	Eau Claire	Channel 18
WLAX/WEUX/FOX 24/48	LaCrosse/Eau Claire	Channels 25 & 48
KARE-11 TV	Twin Cities	Channel 11
KMSP-TV/FOX 9	Twin Cities	Channel 9
KSTC	Twin Cities	Channel 45
KSTP-TV	Twin Cities	Channel 5
KSAX-TV	Twin Cities	Channel 5
WCCO – TV	Twin Cities	Channel 4

Parents have the final authority whether to send their children to school on inclement weather days if they believe conditions are too unsafe for travel; however, if you choose to keep your child home, you must still report the child's absence to the school.

This information is being provided to parents and the community so that everyone is better prepared to deal with school closings or delays. If you have any questions about our school closing policy or procedures, please contact Joe Zydowsky, District Administrator, at 232-1642, ext. 11111.