



Ms. Sharon Rossiter, Superintendent

Guidelines for School Closures

Parents, students and employees should assume that school is in session unless otherwise notified.

As the winter season approaches and we had our first opportunity to shovel snow this week, I would like to share the measures SPEED District 802 takes when determining an emergency day. The superintendent, in consultation with superintendents of SPEED Member School Districts makes the determination. On many occasions some, but not all of our members may cancel school depending on location.

Data Source: The National Weather Service (NWS) is the primary meteorological source to determine and declare weather conditions such as snow forecasts, wind-chill advisory or wind-chill warnings.

<http://www.weather.gov>

Priority on Safety: When closing schools because of severe weather-related conditions or other emergency situations, some of the primary factors that are considered include:

- *The safety and well-being of students*
- *The ability of buses to pick up students*
- *The severity of the weather (extreme cold, excessive snow or ice, flooding, etc..)*
- *The timing of the weather events*
- *The operational condition of our buildings (heat and power)*

How We Notify Parents, Students and Employees: Our intent is to announce school closings by 10:00 p.m. on the previous evening, and no later than 5:30 a.m. that morning. Closing information is available through:

- Parents and Employees can expect to receive an automated phone call
- Parents and Employees can expect to receive an e-mail
- SPEED Website (a special alert is posted on the home page) www.speed802.org
- WGN's Emergency Closings website: www.emergencyclosingcenter.com
- SPEED Facebook Page

Personal Family Situations: Any decision to cancel school or alter the school day is based on general safety conditions for all students. We understand that conditions may vary for each student or family. If, in the event of severe weather when schools are open, you feel it is unsafe or unwise to send your student to school, please contact your school office. Student safety remains our priority.

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sharon Rossiter'.

Sharon Rossiter,
Superintendent