

What is AP 132?



- **It guides decisions** for school closure, due to inclement weather.
- With **safety of students as the primary concern**, the **Superintendent and Transportation Manager make a joint decision, between 5:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.**, on school closure and cancelling buses.
- **AP 132 has been followed for decades, and is applied consistently**, using Environment Canada conditions, and a network of contacts.

When are buses cancelled & schools closed?



To ensure safety, AP 132 provides the following guidelines:

Note: Cancelling buses for a full day automatically closes affected school(s) for all students.

- **Ambient air temperature -40°C** = bus cancellation.
- **Air Temp between -30°C and -40°C AND wind chill factors in excess of -40°C** = possible bus cancellation.
- **Dangerous road conditions and/or poor visibility** = bus cancellation.
- **Buses may be cancelled, and schools remain open if conditions (such as fog or freezing rain) are expected to improve.** Buses would then run in the afternoon to transport students home.

Did You Know?

WCPS schools have only been closed an average of **2.85 days per year** over the past 10 years, due to inclement weather.

Why are schools closed when buses are cancelled?

To ensure safety, AP 132 provides the following guidelines:

- **If there are extreme weather conditions** to the degree that WCPS will not run buses, we also believe **conditions are not safe for students to be traveling to school**, and will close schools accordingly to ensure safety.
- WCPS' mandate is to provide a safe and caring school division. **Closing schools on these days ensures we are doing everything possible to keep students safe.**
- Despite many urban schools having fewer bus students, **many feeder bus routes travel from rural areas to urban schools.**
- **Not feasible to close one school and leave others in the same community open**, as weather impacts a region, and **families could have students in more than one school.**
- We have seen **tragic consequences when drivers venture on dangerous roads**, including in an Alberta school division in 2018, with a fatality of a teen driving to school.
- **Safety must remain a priority.**

Did you know?

❄️ WCPS bus more than 4,100 students, 57% of our student population, over a total distance of more than 40,000 km per year.

❄️ WCPS staff still attend their school sites, unless deemed unsafe to do so.

❄️ WCPS plans for more than the required instructional hours to buffer in case of school closures.

We know: *Finding childcare is challenging, and we truly appreciate parents making arrangements.*