



## **Winnipeg Mennonite Elementary and Middle Schools Severe Weather, School Closures and Busing Procedures (January 2017)**

### **SCHOOL CLOSURE**

If a situation develops before 7:00 a.m. where the school needs to be closed entirely (because of a snowstorm or other kind of emergency), the closure will be announced on **CJOB at, or sometime soon after, 7:00 a.m. We will post this information on our website by 7:00 a.m.** Please make a point of tuning into CJOB during times of severe weather conditions. You will also be contacted through the school emergency phone tree.

### **BUSING STUDENTS**

a) *Cold temperatures, dangerously high windchills (-45° or colder) or blizzard conditions* may cause the School to **shut down the busing system**. Temperature readings are taken from the Forks Environment Canada weather station.

The driver will initiate the bus phone tree. **We will post this information on our website by 7:00 a.m if buses will not be running in the morning.** If your child(ren) will not be attending school that day, please contact the school office. **If only windchill conditions are the factor, we will reassess conditions at 1:00 pm, and a temperature warmer than -45° may mean buses will run in the afternoon. Parents are encouraged to check the school website after 1:00 pm to see up to date information on busing for the afternoon.**

b) *In the event that a storm approaches or some other emergency develops during the course of a school day, an early dismissal may be required.* If the bus were to leave only a few minutes ahead of their usual departure time, this should not present a major problem. If weather conditions dictate that buses will be operating on a significantly different schedule than usual, parents will be contacted by the school.

c) *Winter driving conditions may make it difficult for the bus driver to stay right on schedule at certain times.* **Please remember that the well-being of your child/ren, while waiting for the bus, is your responsibility.**

### **WALKING/CAR POOLING STUDENTS**

In cases of severe weather conditions, parents will need to decide whether to have their child/ren come to school in the morning. If such conditions set in during the course of the day, parents may wish to pick up students early. In any event, walking/car pool students would be required to remain at school until appropriate arrangements with parents or guardians have been made.

### **OUTDOOR RECESSES**

Regular recess will take place until the temperature with wind chill reaches -28 C. From time to time when temperatures are lower than -28 C Students may be allowed “ 5- 7 minute Outdoor Activity Breaks” to break up the day and receive some much needed physical activity. These breaks will take place at the discretion of the Principal. Students need to be dressed properly at all times and come prepared to go outside. Temperature Readings may be obtained from Environment Canada, (James A. Richardson International Airport or The Forks) or at the weather stations located at the school. The Principal will decide which weather information source will be used for the school.