

INCLEMENT WEATHER

School Cancellation

While every effort is made to inform parents/guardians of a sudden unscheduled need to close the schools, there is no way to assure that every parent will receive information in a timely manner to respond in their student's best interest. A heavier than predicted snowfall in winter or severe weather in spring or fall may result in an early dismissal from school. School personnel make every effort to avoid sending students home outside the normal schedule.

During periods of inclement weather parents/guardians and students are advised to monitor local radio and television stations for changes in school schedules. The media are contacted as soon as a decision is made to vary from the regular school schedule in order to notify parents/guardians as quickly as possible. If the weather looks threatening, parents/guardians are encouraged to stay tuned to the local news media for updates.

Family Emergency Plans

Students and parents/guardians should develop family emergency plans. Does your child have a house key or know where to find one? Does your child have a neighbor to go to in case no one is at home? Have you discussed several possibilities so your child knows what to do? Do a drill or at least a periodic verbal check to be sure your student knows what steps to take. Keep the procedure updated as personal circumstances change.

Severe Weather Procedures

When tornado watches or warnings are issued by the U.S. Weather Bureau, Hamilton students will be retained in school until dismissal time or until such time that, in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee, they may be safely dismissed.

1. If a tornado watch is announced during the day, students will be dismissed at the regular time.
2. If a tornado warning is in effect, students will not be dismissed and will be moved to designated areas within each school.
3. Extra-Curricular Activities: When adverse weather conditions close school or a tornado warning or watch is in effect, after school, evening educational or athletic events are permitted only when a building administrator is on site to monitor the situation and when authorized by the Superintendent or designee. If no building administrator is on site, the extracurricular activity will be stopped and any Hamilton Community Schools employee has the responsibility for dismissing the activity. This will normally be the adult in charge of the activity. The employee will make a responsible and reasonable effort to move visitors within buildings to appropriate designated shelter. Any adult visitor or student accompanied by an adult that decide to leave during this situation will not be stopped but leave the building at their own risk.