

First Reading: **November 12, 2015**

Second Reading: December 10, 2015

Adopted: February 10, 2005; February 4, 2010

## **899 CLOSING OF SCHOOLS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to empower the superintendent, or designee, to suspend school operations due to emergency conditions.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Unusual emergency conditions may arise when schools are in session and require suspending school operations. These conditions may include weather emergencies, threats to student welfare, hazards, widespread illness, or state and national emergencies. The superintendent has the authority to suspend schools when emergency weather conditions threaten the general welfare of students and employees.

### **III. WEATHER EMERGENCY**

The school district's response to a weather emergency is as follows:

- A. School is closed for the day. This decision is made by the superintendent prior to 6:00 a.m. and the media is notified. Employees and parents/guardians are notified by an alert system.. School closing information is also put on the main voicemail of each building and the home pages of the schools' and district's web sites.
- B. School may be cancelled during the day if a developing storm or other emergency warrants early dismissal. This situation is more difficult for parents/guardians since it is unexpected. The school district will notify parents/guardians using the an alert system.
- C. The start of school may be delayed when it appears that weather conditions will improve rapidly and a delay allows safe travel to school. School will dismiss at the regular time when a delayed start occurs. School and community use of schools during the evening hours will occur as scheduled.
- D. School facility use, athletic contests, and MAC Program. In the event of school cancellation or early dismissal, families should contact the Community Education

weather hot line or the High School activity office for the status of individual activities. Before- and after-school child care (MAC) offered by Community Education has specific school closing procedures that will be followed.

#### **IV. OTHER EMERGENCIES**

For other types of crisis situations not listed above, see the Crisis Management Policy 806.

#### ***Legal References:***

***Cross References:*** Mahtomedi School Board Policy 806 (Crisis Management)

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