

Inclement Weather Protocols: 2024-2025

November 6, 2024

St. Cloud Area
School District 

Guiding Principles in School Closures

St. Cloud
Metro
Partnership

Staff and
Student
Safety

Regular
Attendance
& Access to
Education

Predictable
Decision -
Making

Timely
Information
Sharing

St. Cloud Metro Partnership

- The Sartell-St. Stephen, Sauk Rapids-Rice and St. Cloud Area School Districts have agreed to make school closure decisions together.
- If/when school closures occur:
 - Individual school districts each have their own plans for at-home learning
 - Individual plans for make-up days based on their school district policies and resources.

Staff & Student Safety

- When making decisions about school closures, our priority is the safety of our students, families and staff.
- If a parent or guardian believes keeping their child(ren) home from school is the best option during inclement weather, they may choose to do so.
 - Provided families enter an absence request, the absence will be excused.

Access to Education

In the event of school closures:

- One (1) non-student contact day for 1st full day closure.
- E-learning (aka Flexible learning) will go into effect for the next 5 days of closure.
- Following day 6 of total closures, we will determine if make-up days will be required.
- Students receive instruction through Choice Boards, SeeSaw, or Schoology.
- Students have access to teachers and support staff.

Predictable Decision-Making for Cold Weather

**For cold-weather closures, we will rely on
the following:**

- 35 degrees below zero temperatures (either base temperature or wind chill) forecasted or reported
- Based on St. Cloud Weather Reporting
- Reported by the National Weather Service (NWS)/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA)
- If temperature is predicted to rise above -35 degrees by 9:30 AM, a two-hour late start may be considered.

Predictable Decision-Making For Inclement Weather

- For inclement weather closures, the following factors will be considered:
 - Forecasted snow, ice, wind and accumulation of weather factors.
 - Current road-conditions as reported by transportation teams.

We will avoid early-release decisions whenever possible.

Timely Decision-Making

- Whenever possible, we will make decisions about closures or delays the evening prior.
 - Evening communication will be made by phone prior to 9:00 pm.
 - If you do not hear from us by 9:00 pm, no decisions will be communicated that day.
 - Morning communication will be made by 5:15am - 6:00am.

Other Important Information

- Families: Please be sure you have a plan for your child in the event of a school closure, late start or early release.
 - In the event of a school closure or early release, no activities or practices will be held. Rare exceptions to this rule may occur in the event of a section or state-level meet and will be agreed upon by the participating Superintendents.

Other Important Information

- Families: Please be sure you have a plan for your child in the event of a school closure, late start or early release.
 - KidStop will provide child-care at selected locations in our school district during cold-weather school closures.

Other Important Information

- Families: Please be sure you have a plan for your child in the event of a school closure, late start or early release.
 - Refer to our website for further information and related updates during weather events.

Thank you!

Questions?

St. Cloud Area
School District 