

1 **MTSBA**

2
3 Policy #2221

4 Policy Name: *School Closure*

5 Regulation:

10 The Superintendent may order closure of schools in the event of extreme weather or other emergency, in
11 compliance with established procedures for notifying parents, students, and staff.

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13 The Board of Trustees is authorized to declare that a state of emergency exists within the community. A
14 declaration issued by the Board of Trustees is distinct from any declaration in effect or previously issued
15 by local, state or federal authorities. An emergency declaration issued by the Board of Trustees
16 authorizes the School District to take extraordinary measures to protect students and staff while delivering
17 education services in a manner authorized by law. The method and location of instruction and related
18 educational services shall be implemented in a manner that serves the needs of students, their families,
19 and staff and preserves the School District’s full entitlement of funding.

20
21 The trustees may order the emergency closure of schools for one (1) school day each year, without the
22 need to reschedule the lost pupil instruction time when the closure is the result of an emergency. The 1-
23 school-day closure under this subsection is not subject to the reduction in BASE aid pursuant to Section
24 20-9-805, MCA.

25
26 In the event of a declared emergency, the School District shall avail itself of all flexibilities allowed by
27 law, rule, or regulation and shall be otherwise governed by the school finance laws and rules of the state
28 of Montana. The School District shall comply with auditing requirements and reserves the authority to
29 assert its rights to manage school district funds or seek state and federal funds in a manner consistent with
30 the full flexibility available under all applicable laws.

31
32 If a declaration of emergency is declared by the Board of Trustees, it may later adopt a resolution that a
33 reasonable effort has been made to reschedule the pupil-instruction time lost because of the unforeseen
34 emergency. If the trustees adopt the resolution, the pupil-instruction time lost during the closure need not
35 be rescheduled to meet the minimum requirement for aggregate hours that a school district must conduct
36 during the school year in order to be entitled to full BASE aid. At least 75% of the pupil-instruction time
37 lost due to the unforeseen emergency must have been made up before the trustees can declare that a
38 reasonable effort has been made.

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40 For the purposes of this and related policies, "reasonable effort" means the rescheduling or extension of
41 the school district's instructional calendar to make up at least 75% of the hours of pupil instruction lost
42 due to an unforeseen emergency through any combination of the following as outlined in accordance with
43 Policies 2050 and 2100:

- 44 (a) extending the school year beyond the last scheduled day;
45 (b) the use of scheduled vacation days in the district's adopted school calendar
46 (c) the conduct of pupil instruction on Saturdays;
47 (d) extending instructional hours during the school day.
48

49 Cross Reference: 2100 School Calendar and Day

50 2050 Student Instruction

Legal Reference: Section 20-9-801-802, MCA Emergency School Closure

Section 20-9-806, MCA School closure by declaration of emergency

Section 20-9-805, MCA Rate of reduction in annual apportionment entitlement.

Browning Public Schools

Policy #4013

Policy Name: *School Closure*

Regulation:

All students, parents, and school employees should assume that school will be in session and buses running as scheduled, unless there is official notification from the Superintendent to the contrary. Such notice will be given via public media including television and radio.

In the event that extremely cold temperatures, wind chill factors, snow, wind or other emergency circumstances, which result in the need for a modification of the normal routine, the Superintendent will make the modification decision prior to 6:00 a.m. and contact the public radio stations for broadcast to the community and will initiate the emergency fan-out communication procedure to all administrators.

Only the Superintendent or his or her designee may order the closure of schools in the event of extreme weather or other emergency, in compliance with established procedures for notifying parents, students and staff. The Superintendent will be on duty throughout any existing or potential emergency situation day or night. All directives which are of doubtful origin should be confirmed with the Superintendent.

The Trustees may order the emergency closure of schools for one school day each year without the need to reschedule the lost pupil instruction time when the closure is the result of an emergency.

Cross Reference: ~~#4013 P School Closure Procedures~~

~~#2112 Duties of the Superintendent~~

~~#3700 Student Safety Regulations~~

Legal Reference: ~~20-9-801-803, MCA Emergency School Closure~~

Policy History:

Adopted on: 5/31/00

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