



# Anglophone West School District

## An Important Message to Parents – School Closures Because of Weather Conditions

Anglophone West School District (ASD-W) is committed to the safe and efficient transportation of students. Therefore, the district recognizes that it may be necessary to cancel bus runs, close schools, or delay school opening to ensure students are not endangered by hazards brought on by poor weather and road conditions.

Approximately 22,733 students attend 69 schools in the following areas: Edmundston, Grand Falls, Plaster Rock, Perth Andover, Florenceville-Bristol, Bath, Centreville, Hartland, Woodstock, Canterbury, Nackawic, Burtts Corner, McAdam, Harvey, Stanley, Boiestown, Doaktown, the greater Fredericton area, New Maryland, Keswick Ridge, Nashwaak Valley, Oromocto, Geary, Burton, Lincoln, Fredericton Junction, Chipman, Minto, Gagetown and Cambridge Narrows. A total of 260 school buses transport approximately 15,000 students, travelling more than six million kilometers every school year. When a decision is made to close schools, delay school openings, cancel bus runs or delay bus runs, safety is the number one consideration.

### Options Considered by ASD-W:

- **Schools open as usual:** no communication is required.
- **All schools closed for the day:** see “Communication” section below.
- **A school or schools in a particular zone of the district closed:** see “Communication” section below.
- **All school bus routes delayed by one hour:** on these occasions, all schools in ASD-W will open at their regular time to receive walking students and drop-off students. Students arriving late will not be disadvantaged.
- **Schools may close early:** on days when it is anticipated that weather conditions may deteriorate significantly, it is important that parents have alternate arrangements for their children, if they or another adult will not be at home. Please ensure that the school has up-to-date contact information for parents (work numbers, cell numbers, etc.) and at least one emergency contact. Announcements will be made that buses will begin their afternoon runs; one, two, or three hours earlier than usual.
- **Power Outage:** in the event that a particular school is without power, the school will open at the regular time, unless otherwise communicated by the Superintendent. In some power outage cases, the decision regarding school closure for the day may be deferred from 6:00 AM to 7:00 AM.

### Important Notes:

- There may be occasions when a particular bus route is hazardous because of varying weather conditions throughout ASD-W. If the bus driver has a safety concern, he or she has the responsibility to recommend either the cancellation or delay of that particular bus run.
- Parents may exercise their right to keep their child at home if they believe weather and/or road conditions are not suitable for travelling. Students will not be penalized for such absences; however, parents must provide a written excuse to the student’s teacher when the child returns to school.
- There are times when school buses run late for reasons unrelated to weather. Bus runs that are expected to be more than 20 minutes late will be announced on the ASD-W website and radio stations, whenever possible.
- It is the responsibility of the parent, for the safety of their children at the bus stop, until the bus arrives. It is also the responsibility of the parent to ensure an adult is available to receive their children at the end of the school day.

### School Zones:

1. Edmundston
2. Grand Falls, Plaster Rock, Perth-Andover
3. Florenceville-Bristol, Bath, Centreville, Hartland, Woodstock
4. Canterbury, Nackawic, Burtts Corner, McAdam, Harvey
5. Stanley, Boiestown, Doaktown
6. Greater Fredericton Area (including New Maryland, Keswick Ridge, Nashwaak Valley)
7. Oromocto, Geary, Burton, Lincoln, Fredericton Junction
8. Chipman, Minto
9. Cambridge Narrows, Gagetown

### Decision Process:

- The Superintendent of Schools makes the decision to close schools based on the information provided by the ASD-W Transportation Manager’s current weather and road condition reports. Our Transportation Department has access to current weather and road conditions for all school zones in ASD-W. This information is gathered from; The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Road Supervisors, a contracted weather information service provider, internet sites and reports provided by ASD-W Assistant Transportation Managers who travel to inspect the road conditions for their areas. Inclement weather predictions are monitored closely throughout the prior evening and again from 5:00 AM onward.

### Communication:

- It is a school-based decision to use a voice-messaging system to school communities, if available. However, parents should not rely on this means of communication only regarding school closures. A list of local radio stations below will be contacted to announce ASD-W school closures, a recorded message will be available by calling ASD-W at 1-888-388-4455 (toll free) or 453-5454 (local calls) any time after 6:00 AM., and our district website will post all school closures at [www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca](http://www.asd-w.nbed.nb.ca).

• CFAI – 101 Rock 105	101.1 FM	- Edmundston
• CJEM	92.7 FM	- Edmundston
• CKMV	95.1 FM	- Grand Falls
• CIKX	93.5 FM	- Grand Falls
• CJCJ	104.1FM	- Woodstock
• WQHR	96.1 FM	- Presque Isle
• CBC – Radio One	99.5 FM	- Fredericton
• Capital FM	106.9 FM	- Fredericton
• Fox	105.3 FM	- Fredericton

• UP	93.1 FM	- Fredericton
• CJRI	104.5 FM	- Fredericton
• CFRK – Fred FM	92.3 FM	- Fredericton
• CIXN – Joy FM	96.5 FM	- Fredericton
• CKHJ	103.5 FM	- Fredericton
• CINB – New Song FM	96.1 FM	- Saint John
• CBC – CBC Radio One	104.5 FM	- Saint John
• CHSJ	94.1 FM	- Saint John
• The Wave	97.3 FM	- Saint John