



Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

Reference: *Administrative Procedure 132 – Inclement Weather – Bus Cancellation/School Closure*

As part of our contract with SOUTHLAND TRANSPORTATION providing school bus service to Medicine Hat Catholic schools, SOUTHLAND is required to outline the road and weather conditions that exist for School Bus Routes to be cancelled.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of those conditions and to make you aware of the processes used to inform parents when school busses will not be running. SOUTHLAND has informed us that the causes for bus cancellation are safety related issues as a result of heavy overnight snowfall and ice on the roads. Should these conditions exist, SOUTHLAND will assess the situation at **5:30 am**. Bus route service may be cancelled for the day if SOUTHLAND determines that the heavy overnight snowfall and/or the ice on the road are detrimental to safe school bus travel.

Temperature and wind-chill in of themselves are not criteria SOUTHLAND will use for the decision to cancel bus route service for the day. Announcements about bus cancellation are communicated by the SOUTHLAND TRANSPORTATION on local radio stations. The School District is also informed. Notification of the bus route cancellation will be posted on the division website at www.mhcbe.ab.ca and on the division social media pages @MHCatholic.

Important Notes:

- Please ensure children are dressed warm and appropriate for inclement weather;
- Please ensure alternate arrangements are in place in the event school busses are not running;
- Parents have the ultimate responsibility in making the decision on whether children walk to school or to the school bus during inclement weather.

School Closure: Schools will remain open during inclement weather unless travel is not recommended. Schools will *only be closed* due to inclement weather when the Medicine Hat Police Service advises no travel on city streets.

- Announcements about school closure will be communicated on local radio stations.
- Notification of school closure will be posted on the division website at www.mhcbe.ab.ca and on the division social media pages @MHCatholic.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's School Principal.

Sincerely,

A large, handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Dwayne Zarichny".

Dwayne Zarichny, Superintendent of Schools
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

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