

November 14, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am writing to inform parents and guardians of our school community's cold and inclement weather protocols. This afternoon, a Special Weather Statement was issued from Environment Canada, where significant snowfall was forecasted over the next couple of days. As a practice, our schools remain open during inclement weather; however, we also recognize that weather conditions may result in early dismissals or adjustments in regular bus schedules. However, in extreme weather conditions, the final decision to send a child to school or the bus rests with the parent(s) or guardian(s) even though buses and schools may be operating.

As this is the first instance where we are encountering winter weather for the 2021-22 school year, we want to remind parents of the following protocols at Albert Lacombe School:

1. Students may enter the school upon arrival through the main entrance when the temperature is below -20 (with windchill). The school opens at 8:10 AM, when staff are scheduled to be at the school. Parents who have their children with SIGIS child care can bring their child/ren in at their regular time before the start of the school day.
2. Parents/guardians shall ensure that their children on a school bus or walking to school are appropriately dressed according to prevailing or potential weather conditions. Parents/guardians will be advised of the status of transportation operations on our school website and Division App for all students accessing transportation services. Our school website is updated immediately upon changing conditions, as well as the posting of any alerts.
3. For students riding the bus, it is essential that parents make advanced and adequate provisions for their child(ren) in the event mechanical difficulties arise on the bus that may:
 - a. Force suspension of regular bus service.
 - b. Cause early dismissal of students.
 - c. Result in a bus being more than ten (10) minutes late for a scheduled stop (pick up or drop off).
4. For students walking or taking the bus to and from school, have a 'go to' person (e.g. a trusted neighbour) or location if they cannot enter their house (e.g. lost key, frozen lock, parent/guardian not home, etc.).

While at school, all outdoor activities (recess and PE classes) will cease when the temperature drops below -20 with the wind chill. During recess breaks, alternate activities are available for students in their classroom with regular supervision.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at 780-459-4478.

Yours in education,



Allan Menduk
Principal



WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD