

# Guidelines for school and/or bus cancellations due to weather

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or school buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible.

## A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all buses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, an

## 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- Bused students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.



If there are any changes to our regular operations, we will communicate in the following ways:

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338
- On our website [www.hrce.ca](http://www.hrce.ca)
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [twitter.com/hrce\\_ns](https://twitter.com/hrce_ns)
- On Instagram at [instagram.com/hrce\\_ns](https://instagram.com/hrce_ns)



## How does Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) decide on school and/or bus cancellations?

- By 4:30 a.m., HRCE staff begin to gather information from:
  - A contracted weather service that provides radar and satellite imagery, real-time road conditions and weather warnings;
  - A meteorologist who provides forecast details, level and type of precipitation and impact on road conditions;
  - HRCE's transportation service providers, who provide updates on road conditions in their area;
  - Municipal and provincial transportation staff; and
  - Other local weather services, including Environment Canada and The Weather Network. By 5:30 a.m., HRCE staff make recommendations to the Regional Executive Director (or designate), who then makes the final decision. This decision is communicated as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible.

**Remember: Parents/guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.**