

School District of Shell Lake

Home of the Lakers
271 Hwy 63 S Shell Lake, WI 54871
(715) 468-7816

School Closing Guidelines

Although severe weather conditions are the most common reason for a change of school schedule, other events such as a utility outage could necessitate the cancellation or early dismissal of school.

The overriding concern in making the decision to close schools is the safety of our students, staff, and others in the community. The fundamental decision is whether students will be safer with school in session or with school closed for the day. Several factors are considered, including the following:

- Road conditions throughout the 161 square miles that make up our district
- Wind chill, especially if combined with poor roads due to heavy snow or ice, creates the possibility of buses running late and students having to wait longer outdoors
- Finally, the forecasted conditions throughout the day

When severe winter weather occurs, the following steps are taken to examine weather conditions and to decide whether to close schools.

- The Superintendent, Maintenance Supervisor and Transportation Director consult to assess road conditions.
- The district reviews weather forecast models from the National Weather Service, The Weather Channel and AccuWeather.
- The district may also consult with neighboring districts and the Washburn County Sheriff's Department.

The decision to cancel school for the day will be made by 6:00 AM.

- Information regarding school closings is shared with the public in several ways.
- Parents/guardians, staff, coaches, etc. are notified via a phone call and/or text message from our automated messaging system using contact information listed in Skyward.
- A notice will be posted on the district website.
- TV stations: KSTP Channel 5, KARE 11, WEAU Channel 13
- Radio stations: WJMC 96.1; The Fox 99.1; WAQE 97.7.

In the event of an early dismissal or school closing, after school activities are typically canceled or rescheduled for a later date. Exceptions would be announced on the district website.

All parents are encouraged to maintain and/or update contact information in Skyward so that contact information is accurate. Also, every parent is encouraged to set-up contingency childcare plans in the event of school cancellations, delayed starts or early dismissals.

[Todd Felhofer](#)

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[Kyle Johnson](#)

PK-6th Principal
(715) 468-7815

[Andrea Thompson](#)

7th-12th Principal
(715) 468-7814

[Cory Anderson](#)

AD/Dean of Students
(715) 468-7814

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Pupil Services
(715) 468-7816