

What happens if the bus breaks down?

There have been rare occasions when a bus has broken down. If this occurs in the morning prior to the start of the route, the bus operator will contact parents to advise that the bus is not operating.

If the breakdown occurs at the end of the school day, the contractor will ensure there is a bus to take students home.

If the bus breaks down on route, the bus operator shall provide an alternate bus to complete the route.

Why should my child be dressed appropriately for the weather?

In the event a bus breaks down it is important that students are dressed for the weather conditions. If a bus breakdown occurs it may be sometime before another bus or alternate arrangements can be made to transport students.

What should students do if the bus does not pick them up?

Parents should ensure that their children have a plan in the event that the bus does not arrive to pick them up. Children must be aware of how long to wait at their stop before returning home or going to their alternate location.

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools

Transportation Services
Contact: Director of Transportation
5515-47A Avenue
Wetaskiwin, Alberta
T9A 3S3

Phone: (780) 352-6018

Website: www.wrps.ab.ca



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WETASKIWIN REGIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Will my child's school be closed?

Schools will remain open to students during the times and dates established by the board as per the school year calendar. Schools will not be cancelled in the event of inclement weather and bus cancellation.

Can I keep my children home if weather or road conditions seem severe?

Parents are not required to send their children to school if, in their judgment, weather conditions are detrimental to the safety or well-being of their children.

What indicators are used when considering non-operation of busses?

Any of the following factors, or combinations of factors, shall serve as guidelines for considering non-operation or early operation of busses.

- Temperature of -40 degrees Celsius with or without a wind chill factor reported by the weather office for the area in question;
- Visibility of less than 30 meters.
- Road closures by the R.C.M.P. municipal or other local road officials.

When is the decision made to cancel bus transportation?

The decision to cancel bus transportation services will be made by 6:00 a.m. Bus Operators will contact parents directly to inform parents of bus cancellation. Bus Route Status will be available on the division and school websites by 7:00 a.m.



How will I know when busses are cancelled?

If bus cancellation at a specific school occurs the bus operator will contact parents directly and advise them of the cancellation.

Once a decision is made to cancel bus routes due to inclement weather, the Director of Transportation will contact local radio stations. All such decisions will be announced on the radio. Media outlets are not obligated to broadcast this information but do so as a community service. Bus Route Status will be posted on the WRPS website www.wrps.ab.ca.



It is the parents responsibility to listen for radio announcements and to make suitable arrangements for their children. If parents are in doubt they should contact the bus operator to confirm if the bus is operating.

Can individual bus operators decide not to operate all or part of their route?

An individual bus operator may make the decision not to transport students during cold or inclement weather. In the event of a route cancellation the bus operator shall make reasonable effort to contact the parents of students transported on that route.

Why has there been bus cancellation in one area and not across the division?

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools boundaries run from Alder Flats in the west to Gwynne in the east, and from Millet in the north to Rosebrier in the south. Often temperatures and weather conditions vary significantly across the division therefore, it does not make sense to cancel busses in all areas.

What happens if the weather deteriorates during the school day?

Normally busses will not run early if inclement weather conditions develop during the schools day. Students will remain at the school until the end of the day unless picked up by their parents. If a decision is made to run busses early the principal will notify parents of all specifics regarding early bus delivery of students. The Director of Transportation will contact affected operators to begin their routes early, as well as notify the local media of early school closure. The school will remain open to students whose parents cannot be contacted, until such times as alternate housing arrangements can be made.

