



## Mukwonago Area School District

*Building Better Schools Together*

December 9, 2016

Dear Parents,

The safety of our students is the top priority in the Mukwonago Area School District. The purpose of this letter is to explain how we determine if school should be canceled due to extreme cold weather or unsafe roads from snow/ice. With the forecast calling for snow and cold, it's a great time to review our procedures with families who are impacted by our decisions.

Based upon the National Weather Service guidelines, we have used a wind chill of 35 degrees below zero as the point when it's too dangerous for our students to attend school. When wind chills are 35 below or colder with winds at least 4 mph for 3 hours, the National Weather Service will issue a wind chill warning. Our school board and all other Waukesha County K - 12 school districts have agreed to use this threshold to cancel school.

Typically we start the process by checking the National Weather Service website at 4:00 AM. We are especially concerned with the wind chill predictions for the times when our students will be picked up at bus stops or walking to school (6:15 – 8:30 AM). I confer with other Waukesha County superintendents and also contact the director of our bus company, Dousman Transport. We use a similar process for unsafe roads due to snow/ice. Under these conditions, we also contact Waukesha County Sheriff's Department. If the bus company or the law enforcement agencies believe the roads are unsafe, we will delay the start of school or cancel.

We make every attempt to cancel school by 5:30 AM. At that time parents are notified via our Shoutpoint messaging system. Families will receive a phone message and an email. Parents may also get a text based upon your Infinite Campus preferences. We will also post the closing information on our district website and contact the media.

Finally, parents always have the choice to keep their son or daughter home if they believe the weather is too dangerous. If you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at [mcnulsh@masd.k12.wi.us](mailto:mcnulsh@masd.k12.wi.us) or at the number listed below. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Shawn McNulty'.

Shawn McNulty  
Superintendent of Schools  
262.363.6300