

# School Cancellation and Postponement Procedures

1. School postponement and cancellation alternatives will be as follows:
  - a. Hold school as normal.
  - b. Open school but delay sending buses.
  - c. Delay the start time in all schools by two (2) hours based on each school's start time.
    - Elementary School: Start time is 8:25, so school would start at 10:25.
    - Middle School: Start time is 8:40, so school would start at 10:40.
    - High School: Start time is 8:00, so school would start at 10:00.
    - When school starts late, there will be no morning Early Childhood Special Education or morning Head Start classes. Afternoon Early Childhood Special Education and Head Start classes will be held.
    - Breakfast will not be served at any sites.
  - d. No school in Grand Forks Public Schools all day.
  - e. No school for the Grand Forks Air Force Base School District students all day.
    - Decisions related to the delayed opening or closing of air base schools may not always be consistent with those made for in-town schools. On those days when severe weather makes travel conditions so hazardous as to threaten the safety of staff members, opening delays or the closing of base schools will be given special consideration.
  - f. Once school is in session, it will not be terminated until the regular closing time except in very severe situations. However, school buses may leave early. Radio and TV stations will be used to notify parents.
2. The decision to close or delay school will be made as early as possible. Announcements will be made on the District webpage ([www.gfschools.org](http://www.gfschools.org)), and District social media ([www.facebook.com/GrandForksPublicSchools](https://www.facebook.com/GrandForksPublicSchools); [www.twitter.com/GFSchools](https://www.twitter.com/GFSchools)). Announcements will also be made on local radio stations: KNOX-AM (1310 AM), KKXL-AM (1440 AM), KCNN-AM (1590 AM), KZLT-FM (104.3 FM), KWTL-AM (1370 AM), KQHT-FM (96.1 FM), KYCK-FM (97.1 FM), and TV stations: WDAZ (Ch.8), KVLV (Ch.11), KXJB (Ch.4), and Channel 15 (Grand Forks Public School Channel).
3. Grand Forks Public Schools will be using our Automated Calling system to call staff and parents if school will be delayed or cancelled due to severe weather conditions. Typically, this automated call will occur to staff between 5:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., and to parents between 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.
4. Parents or guardians may always exercise their right to keep students home or pick them up early during stormy conditions.
5. If an emergency situation should develop during the time school is in session, children will be cared for in school until the storm has subsided.
6. If buses are sent home early, all buses will be sent.
  - a. Radio and TV stations will make the announcement of the departure time.
  - b. The lead-time needed for the procedure is approximately one (1) hour.
  - c. If conditions are dangerous, bus drivers must use common sense in discharging students that must walk a considerable distance. If possible, use the radio and contact the base station. Have parents meet the bus or be on the lookout for their children. If the driver is unable to contact parents and conditions are dangerous, do not let students off the bus but return to school and notify the principal. Schools that have bus students must have a written procedure for caring for students in the event they must be kept overnight at school.

Updated 8-1-2016