



## Broadacres Junior School

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Lesa Williams-George, Principal

January 8, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian:

### SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURE

Occasionally, severe weather conditions may require the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) to cancel transportation and close schools. This may occur before the beginning of the school day or, if conditions become severe, during the school day. To ensure the safety and welfare of students and staff during school hours, the Board's Severe Weather operational procedures will guide decisions and operations.

The safety and welfare of students is a shared responsibility with parents and guardians. It is important for everyone to understand how the Board operates under unusual weather conditions.

Please familiarize yourself with the following procedures and communication plan so together we can ensure the safety of the students entrusted in our care.

- **In the event of severe weather conditions, please keep children at home if possible.**
- The decision to close schools is made by the Director of Education.
- Closure of schools or cancellation of transportation services will be announced on the following stations:

AM Radio	PM Radio		TV
AM 640 680 News Newstalk1010	KISS 92.5 CHFI 98.1 CBC 99.1 VIRGIN 99.9	THE EDGE 102.1 CHUM 104.5 Q107 Z103.5 BOOM 97.3 FLOW 93.5	CP24 CTV CITY-TV GLOBAL TV

Information on closure of schools and cancellation of transportation services or cancellation of classes will be posted on the TDSB website at [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) and on the TDSB social media channels.

During extreme weather conditions, parents and students may wait inside

- **Hallway near bus loop doors** up to 15 minutes prior to the entry or dismissal bells; and
- **Be provided with early entry to the classrooms.**

### School Closures or Bus Schedule Changes During the School Day

- Should schools close during the school day or transportation schedules change, announcements will be broadcast on the radio stations above and posted on the TDSB website.

### Weather Guidelines

This information will be used by the school principal to help determine when action should be taken and may be customized for local use.

Children need an opportunity to get exercise and free play time outdoors, however, weather conditions sometimes warrant that indoor recesses, lunch periods and pre-entry periods be considered necessary for student and staff safety.

Conditions warranting indoor recesses:

- (a) Rain, thunderstorms, lightning, hail, extreme winds and extreme cold.
- (b) Cold weather: When temperature and/or windchill factor indicates -28C or lower children will remain indoors due to risk of frostnip and frostbite.  
When temperature and/or windchill factor indicates -20 to -28C, recesses may be shortened to 10 minutes and lunch recess be 20 minutes depending on local conditions. Weather conditions change during the day. When necessary and if the weather is questionable, the school principal will consult the Environment Canada's [www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca) or Toronto Public Health Web sites for information.

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- Should schools close during the school day or transportation schedules change, announcements will be broadcast on the radio stations above and posted on the TDSB website.

### **Child Pick-up**

- Please be prepared to pick up your child or make arrangements for your child, if required, should schools close early or if transportation schedules are advanced.

### **Arrangements for Students**

- For students in JK – Grade 5, parents will be notified and suitable arrangements for the child's safety will be made.
- For students in Grade 6 to 12, parents are required to designate in writing if the student is to be dismissed early or to remain at school to be picked up. This form (PR519A) is to be completed in September.
- Students over 18 may use their discretion when to leave.

### **The Principal's Responsibility**

- Principals will provide supervision for all students whose parents or guardians have not been contacted or who have not previously indicated in writing their intentions during severe weather conditions. Students will remain inside the school until they have been picked up.

### **Contacting Parents and Guardians**

- Please ensure that your school has an emergency number where you, or a responsible adult to whom you are willing to entrust the care of your child, can be contacted.  
Thank you for your cooperation. Should you have any questions, please contact the school.

Lesla Williams-George  
Principal