



**Dundas Public School**  
 935 Dundas St. East  
 Toronto, Ontario M4M 1R4  
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Date December 3, 2013.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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 from 6:30a.m. onward on the following stations:

<b>AM Radio</b>	<b>FM Radio</b>	<b>TV</b>	<b>.COM</b>
FAN 590 AM 640 CFTR 680 News CFRB 1010 TSN Radio 1050	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	The Weather NetworkCP24 CTV CITY-TV GLOBAL TV OMNI TV ROGERS TV	www.globaltv.com www.thestar.com www.cp24.com www.tdsb.on.ca

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 Twitter and Facebook.

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

Should schools close during the school day or transportation schedules change, an announcement will be broadcast on the radio stations above by 12:00 Noon and posted on the TDSB website. If there is no announcement and posting about schools closing before 12:00 Noon, schools will remain open for the day.

### **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.

Sincerely,

Maria Arone

Principal

**Weather Guidelines**  
DUNDAS P.S.

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. Children should be monitored closely for signs of frostnip, frostbite or difficulty breathing.

(c)

Humidity, Heat and Smog Alerts: The City of Toronto issues heat alerts and heat emergencies based on the daily forecast from May to September. Alerts are posted on the Web site [www.toronto.ca/health](http://www.toronto.ca/health) or by calling (416) 338-7600. Staff and students should be vigilant about their level of activity and should take frequent breaks for water in order to remain adequately hydrated.

Other 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.

During extreme weather conditions, the grade 1 – 5 students may wait inside the Gymnasium and the Kindergarten students may wait in the Kindergarten Lunchroom up to 15 minutes prior to the entry bells. Parents may wait in the Main Foyer or the Dundas Main Office up to 15 minutes prior dismissal bells.