

INDOOR RECESS/NOON HOUR

Background

The Division believes in ensuring the safety and well-being of staff and students. During the periods of time that our community(s) experience severe weather, it may be necessary for the Principal or designate to declare the necessity for an indoor recess or noon period to ensure the safety and well-being of students.

Procedures

1. Before school, if the temperature including windchill is -30°C or greater, students will come in 15 minutes prior to the first bell. (Ensure that students are properly clothed).
2. If the temperature is between -30 and -35 with windchill, the Principal or designate will have an abbreviated recess/noon hour recess to allow students a fresh air break. Timed inside and outside breaks will be determined by the Principal or designate dependent on school day scheduled breaks.
3. If the temperature is -35 or more with the windchill, the Principal or designate will have students stay inside for recess or noon hour.
4. If the temperature is above -30 , the principal or designate will use this as a guideline to declare an outside recess.
5. When an outdoor or noon recess is declared, students and supervisors are expected to dress warmly, go outside during recess and noon hour for fresh air and exercise. Students may come into the school boot room to warm up and are expected to return outside after a few minutes.
6. If a Principal receives Environment Canada warnings related to severe weather or severe weather watch warnings IE: (high winds, tornadoes, lightning flashes) they may warrant an indoor recess and or noon hour period.
 - 6.1 The Principal or designate will announce an indoor recess and or noon hour period until the severe weather has subsided.
7. School administration need to establish procedures at their school site when students are unable to go outside during recess.
 - 7.1 These procedures and guidelines will be communicated to parents and caregivers.
8. Principals or designates may access weather forecasts at: <https://weather.gc.ca/>

References: Sections 85, 141, 142, 146, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 175, 178, 185, Education Act

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