

TIME TO BUNDLE UP!

Cold Weather Guidelines

Sometimes, severe weather requires us to make changes to busing, safety patrolling, and outdoor recess to keep your children safe. All metro Winnipeg school divisions, including River East Transcona, use the temperature reading at The Forks as our guide.

School Closures

Schools very rarely close due to winter weather.

Winter Clothing

Please ensure your child comes dressed appropriately for the weather each day. When the temperature or wind chill is between -27°C and -34°C , warm winter clothing is essential, and facial protection is recommended. When it's below -34°C , facial protection is essential, and it's recommended that children avoid going outdoors unaccompanied, because skin will freeze in less than 10 minutes.

Busing

When the temperature or wind chill is between -35°C and -45°C (or colder), buses will be cancelled for the entire day, but schools usually remain open.

We'll post a cancellation alert on the RETSD website home page if buses are cancelled, and alert the media. If we haven't posted a cancellation alert by 7:15 a.m., buses are running.

School Patrols

When the temperature or wind chill is between -27°C and -34°C , patrols will remain on post for 10 minutes. When it's -35°C to -39°C , patrols will remain on post for five minutes. When it's -40°C and below, no patrols will be on duty.


Recess

When the temperature or wind chill is between -25°C and -27°C , a shortened recess period may be warranted. When it's below -27°C , recess is usually moved indoors.* This is at the discretion of the principal. **with the exception of Polar Bear Club Recess participants*

Polar Bear Club Recess

For schools taking part in Polar Bear Club Recess:

- Student participation is voluntary.
- Parental consent is required.
- Students who have consent can participate in all or none of the recess breaks.
- Students must be dressed appropriately in a warm tuque/hat, snow pants, face covering, warm insulated jacket, mittens, and snow boots.
- Students can go back inside at any time.
- Staff supervision will be provided.

 **All students will remain inside when the temperature or wind chill is -40°C or below. If you have any questions that haven't been addressed by these guidelines, please contact your child's school.**