

District: Leland School District
Section: E - Business Management
Policy Code: EBBB - Emergency Closings

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS/ DELAYED START

Upon application from the school board, the superintendent of schools may close any school because of an epidemic prevailing in the school district or because of the death, resignation, sickness or dismissal of a teacher or teachers, or because of any other emergency necessitating the closing of the school. The superintendent is hereby authorized to close schools and offices or dismiss them early in event of hazardous weather or other emergencies which threaten the safety or health of students or staff members.

It is understood that the superintendent will take such action only after consultation with transportation, emergency management, and weather authorities. The superintendent shall notify the school board of the decision to close the schools. Parents, students, and staff members shall be informed how they shall be notified in event of emergency closings, early dismissals, or delayed start.

When the superintendent declares a delayed start due to inclement weather conditions, typically a one or two hour delay, employees and students are expected to report to school at the delayed start time. (Example: On a 2 hour delay, if the school would normally start at 8:00 a.m., students and faculty would report at 10:00 a.m.; 7:30 start would report at 9:30 a.m.)

Information on closing and delays by the district will be announced on **the district website or other internet outlets**, selected radio, **and television stations before 6:00 a.m.** No announcement means schools will operate on a normal schedule.

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

In cases of a severe weather alert, such as a tornado, hurricane, or snow/ice warning being issued by the National Weather Service, the superintendent of schools or designee shall notify each principal and necessary administrators. Children will be retained in the school buildings until it is deemed safe to dismiss them, unless they are picked up by their parents. Pupils will not be allowed to use the telephone during severe weather alerts except in cases of emergency. Parents and their children should have an arrangement worked out in advance with regard to transportation during extreme weather conditions. However, all such schools so closed shall operate for the required full time after being reopened during the scholastic year, unless the school board of the local school district submits a plan to alter the school term that is approved by the State Board of Education under the authority of Section 37-13-63(2). 37-13-65

Districts shall provide sufficient notice (before the close of the prior school day) to staff and students for any weather-related or other unforeseen virtual days. When instances occur that make virtual learning impractical, the district shall either make up any missed days or use the days as weather days as allowed under Mississippi law.

DISASTER EMERGENCY

If this school board determines that it is not economically feasible or practicable to operate any school within the district for the full one hundred eighty (180) days required for a scholastic year as contemplated due to an enemy attack, a manmade, technological or natural disaster, or extreme

weather emergency in which the Governor has declared a disaster or state of emergency or the U.S. President has declared an emergency or major disaster to exist in this state, the school board may notify the State Department of Education of the disaster or weather emergency and submit a plan for altering the school term. If the State Board of Education finds the disaster or extreme weather emergency to be the cause of the school not operating for the contemplated school term and that such school was in a school district covered by the Governor's or President's disaster or state of emergency declaration, it may permit that school board to operate the schools in its district for less than one hundred eighty (180) days; however, in no instance of a declared disaster or state of emergency under the provisions of this subsection shall a school board receive payment from the State Department of Education for per pupil expenditure for pupils in average daily attendance in excess of ten (10) days. 37-13-63 Each school in the district presently has a weather radio. 37-11-6

The Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard for this policy is standard 31.

LEGAL REF.: MS CODE as cited

Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards

CROSS REF.: Policies EBBA School Safety Plan

EBBB Homeland Security

IAC Virtual Learning Days

Last Review Date: **7.26.2021**

Review History:[1/1/1900][1/1/1901]

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