



WYOMING COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Inspiring Our Students to Learn, Dream, and Achieve!

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January 19, 2018

A MESSAGE FROM DEIRDRE A. CLINE, SUPERINTENDENT:

At the January 18, 2018, Board of Education Meeting, the Wyoming County Board of Education reviewed Policy 1711 - Cancellation of School Activities Due to School Closure (see attached). There was a very active and thorough discussion regarding Policy 1711. After the discussion the Board of Education made no changes to Policy 1711.

The Board of Education originally adopted Policy 1711 out of care and concern for student safety. The premise of Policy 1711 is that if the conditions are not safe to have school, then conditions are not safe to ask students and/or parents to travel for school activities.

However, living in four seasons country, there is realization that weather conditions can change, or improve, throughout any given day, and Policy 1711 has always contained the provision which allows Principals to ask the Superintendent for an exception to the policy and for the Superintendent to allow or deny the exception.

As Superintendent, student safety and well-being is always at the forefront of decisions regarding operations during any kind of weather event. When exceptions to Policy 1711 are requested by the building principal, I will consider 3 criteria in this decision:

- The current weather conditions and predictions from the National Weather Service;
- A status report from the Department of Highways; and
- Conditions regarding the grounds of the school site.

If all of these criteria are favorable, I may allow the exception, but if not, the exception may be denied.

While the Wyoming County Board of Education values every single activity that gives students opportunities to excel and reach their potential, we value student safety even more. We appreciate the concern and support of parents, students, community members, school personnel, and everyone who cares about the students of Wyoming County. Hopefully, this clarification will add to the spirit of communication and cooperation that is so important among us all. Please do not hesitate to call me at 304-732-6262, extension 1101, or email me at dcline@k12.wv.us, regarding this issue or with any other concerns or questions.

With warmest regards,

Deirdre A. Cline

Wyoming County Board of Education

Policy 1711--CANCELLATION OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES DUE TO SCHOOL CLOSURE

When school is canceled at the county level for any reason, all school related activities are also canceled for that day, evening, and night. These activities include, but are not limited to, Board of Education meetings, extracurricular activities, co-curricular activities, athletic events (whether school-sponsored or not), athletic practices, meetings, school functions, adult education classes, community education classes, community/civic and/or other events/activities of any kind and school transportation for the aforementioned events, if any, shall be canceled. Exceptions to this policy are only with the expressed permission of the Superintendent or his/her designee at the request of the building principal. The county superintendent's decision shall be final.

During inclement weather on weekends, holidays, and other days when schools are not in session, all extracurricular activities, co-curricular activities, athletic events of every kind whether school-sponsored or not, adult education classes, community education classes, community/civic and/or other events/activities of any kind shall be canceled or postponed and school transportation for the aforementioned events, if any, shall be canceled.

The county superintendent or his/her designee may grant exceptions to this policy. Any and all requests for an exception to this policy shall be presented to the county superintendent only by building principals. The county superintendent's decision shall be final.

During inclement weather on weekends, holidays, and other days when schools are not in session, each building principal who desires to open the school under his/her authority for any activity shall first consult with the Superintendent to seek permission to open the school. The school shall not be opened without the permission of the county superintendent. The county superintendent's decision shall be final.

For the purposes this policy, "closed" means when the entire county school system has canceled regular classes for the entire school day or scheduled an early dismissal of regular classes for the balance of any school day. "Closed" shall not mean when the entire school system has scheduled a delay for the start of regular classes after which regular classes commence and progress to the end of the regular school day.