



## February 2019 Newsletter

# NWSD Transportation Newsletter

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Administrative Procedure 133 Northwest School Division Administrative Procedures Manual

### SEVERE WEATHER

Schools in the Division are expected to remain open and operational on all designated days of the school year. However, in order to ensure the health and safety of students and Division personnel during periods of severe weather conditions, a decision may be made to suspend the operation of school buses and/or schools.

1. The Director is authorized to dismiss students, discontinue transportation services, and close schools as emergencies arise. The following criteria may be used as a guideline:
  - o Temperature at or lower than -40 degrees Celsius by no later than 7:00 a.m.
  - o Severe wind chill at or no later than 7:00 a.m.
  - o Severely drifted or extremely icy roads.
  - o Limited visibility because of fog or blowing snow. All the above determined by key area drivers in consultation with the Supervisor.
2. The Director or designate may cancel school buses either individually or collectively if weather conditions are so inclement or road conditions are so hazardous to the students being transported.
3. In the absence of a decision by the Director or designate, the individual driver has the discretionary power to cancel or alter his/her route to ensure the safe transport of students.
4. Parents have the right to decide whether to send students to school in bad weather. However, schools and their operations will be open and the student will be absent. Parents are urged to notify the school in the event of retaining the student.
5. Where the individual driver makes the above decision(s), he/she will notify the Principal of the respective school and the Supervisor of Transportation. The Supervisor of Transportation will in turn notify the Director or designate.
6. Where the Director or designate determines that in the interest of safety, bus (buses) must be cancelled, he shall notify the Supervisor of Transportation.



### Upcoming Events

**NWSD February 18 to 25**

**No Classes**

**LPSD & LCSD February 18 to 22**

**No Classes**

If you are new to the area or have moved and require busing. You have to register your child for a bus! The updated Bus Request form can be found at:

<https://www.nwsd.ca/Programs/Busing/ParentInformationandForms/Pages/default.aspx>

immediate parties of such a decision. When possible this will be done by direct communication prior to 7:00 a.m.

7. Regarding inclement weather, schools will remain open to students even if any or all school buses are not operating.

8. If extreme weather conditions exist when bus drivers are returning students from school to their homes, the bus driver shall ensure that each student is delivered to his/her home and enters the house. If circumstances make it impossible to deliver the student to his/her home, the driver shall keep the student in the vehicle and, in consultation with the Principal, make appropriate arrangements for the safety and wellbeing of the student.

9. School buses are not to leave schools earlier than their usual times in circumstances of extreme weather.

10. Principals are responsible for establishing billets in town for all bus students. This is to be done no later than October 15 of a school year. The Principal is responsible for the safe care of all students and staff at the school until safe transportation is assured.

11. In the event a school bus or buses are not operating, the regular staff and in-town students are expected to be in their regular appointed places.

12. All students riding on school buses during winter months shall be required to wear winter footwear and outerwear and to carry with them winter headwear and gloves or mitts. In those cases where children are not appropriately attired for winter conditions, the bus driver may restrict access until appropriate conditions are met. The bus driver shall advise the Principal of such action(s).

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 175, 196 Education Act Approved: November 20, 2018

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## Laws and Fines of School Zones



A popular practice for the police during the school year is to set up speed radars in school zones. There are still many people, including high school students, who are caught going over 40 km/h. No matter the reason, and there are some creative ones, there's no excuse for speeding, especially in a school zone. All you are left with is an expensive reminder that you would have actually been home sooner, and richer, if you hadn't sped.

As a quick refresher, below are some of the fines you can expect if you get caught speeding in a school zone. Thanks to Sgt. Barr, Traffic Sergeant from the Regina Police Service, for the following information.

Up to 70 km/h = \$190 + \$2 for every km/h over the limit.  
Over 70 km/h = \$328 + \$4 for every km/h over.

As soon as you get over the 80 km/h mark in a school zone you are at risk of being arrested for Criminal Dangerous Driving. Not only will this bring you a fine of at least \$1000, it will also give you a criminal record. More importantly, you've put countless people's lives in danger.

As mentioned before, the faster you go, the harder it is to react to a situation. When you speed, not only are you disrupting the flow of traffic, you are putting yourself in a situation where you can severely or fatally injure someone. Don't put the lives of hundreds of children at risk because you're late for work or decide that you don't need to follow speed limits. If you think that you'll be able to react safely if something happens, think again. A vehicle takes a longer distance to stop even at slightly higher speeds. A simple concept, yes, but it's more than you may know.

According to Forensic Dynamics Inc. (<http://forensicdynamics.com/home>), here is the stopping distance for vehicles travelling at 40/50/60 km/h in ideal conditions:

40 km/h = 8.6 meters

50 km/h = 14.05 meters

60 km/h = 20.24 meters

These numbers, of course, can vary depending on the type of vehicle, tires, etc. however the point is that even from 40 to 50 km/h there is a significant difference in how long it takes your vehicle to stop.

It would be a true achievement if a school zone speed radar blitz issued zero tickets. That is the goal of the police service and it should be everyone else's goal as well to make safety the right choice and not speed.

## **Wanted: SPARE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS**

**We are looking for drivers in the Northwest School Division to drive for extra-curricular activities and to relieve drivers on regular routes!**

**WE OFFER:**

- **Competitive Wages**
- **4 Hour Workdays**
- **School Holidays Off**
- **Training**

**WE WANT:**

- **Women or Men**
- **Self Employed**
- **Homemakers**
- **Retired or Semi-Retired**
- **Shift Workers**

**You need a valid driver's license, a criminal record check and a good driving record.**

**CONTACT:**

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