



Anderson School District *one*

- A Tradition of Excellence -

As the winter season approaches, we will begin to enter that part of the school year when we experience our most inclement weather. We want to take this opportunity to provide you the information on how decisions are made and communicated when the weather is severe. The safety of our students and staff is our top priority, and we always follow a set of guidelines to make decisions about whether the schools will be open, closed, or have a distance learning day.

The decision to operate is one of the most difficult and challenging decisions we face. The district must make a decision that is best for all. We realize, at times, our decisions may not fit with your individual circumstances. Therefore, we encourage and strongly support you in making the decision that is best for your child. Parents are always the best judge of their children's health and safety.

We try to keep schools open.

When schools close, many families have issues with child care. As a result, we try to keep schools open if it safe to do so. We all seem to work and function better on a regular schedule, if at all possible.



How do we decide whether or not to close due to snow, ice, and/or extreme cold?

The district monitors weather conditions and forecasts days before a possible severe weather event and consults with the National Weather Service, Meteorologists, Law Enforcement Agencies and the Anderson Emergency Management Center. Additionally, when a decision cannot be made the day before, principals and administrators drive many miles of roads between 4:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. and advise the superintendent of the road conditions. We will also confer with the superintendents from the other four districts in the county, and when possible, we will make the same decision.

When will the decision be made?

The Anderson School District One administration makes the decision whether to close schools by 6:00 a.m. or earlier in order to communicate with families in a timely manner. When at all possible, we make the decision the day before to provide families as much time as possible to prepare.

How can you find out if schools are closed?

The district will send a BrightArrow message via email, phone and/or text message if you provided this information during enrollment. Additionally, you can listen to the local television stations, WYFF Channel 4, WSPA Channel 7, and Fox News Channel 21. Furthermore, you can visit the district website anderson1.org and Facebook page for inclement weather information.

When schools are closed, are other activities cancelled as well?

When Anderson School District One is closed for the day, it also means that all activities scheduled in school buildings for that day are cancelled. This includes after school programs, extra-curricular and/or athletic activities.

Will Anderson One participate in virtual learning if school is cancelled due to weather?
Yes, typically if school is closed for weather, students will complete assignments virtually on those days. The school will communicate with parents/students on how this process will work.

What happens when schools are dismissed early due to bad weather?

Generally, once a school day has started, Anderson One tries not to dismiss early to avoid complications with transportation and child care arrangements. However, if we are forced to dismiss early because of weather conditions, we will give as much advance warning as possible. We know many of our parents work, and we don't want our children sent to empty homes.

Finally, we ask for your support in making these sometime difficult situations operate as smoothly as possible. We all care about the safety of our children; and if we work together, we can make these situations much more tolerable.

Remember that you are at liberty to make the final decision regarding your children. If you are uncomfortable with our decision, you may make the decision that is best for your individual family. We pledge to do our utmost to keep the best interests of the children in mind as we make these challenging decisions.

This letter will be posted on our district website anderson1.org under the "For Parents" link as Inclement Weather Instructions.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation.

G. Robbie Binnicker
Superintendent

