

# INCLEMENT WEATHER & SCHOOL CLOSINGS

## WHO IS WATCHING THE WEATHER?

The Superintendent and administrative staff carefully monitor weather conditions during seasons of inclement weather.

## WHERE DO THEY GET THEIR INFORMATION?

The school district staff listens to weather forecasts. The Director of Transportation monitors and tests road conditions on bus routes, and our Maintenance Departments check school power conditions. Local and state law enforcement and neighboring school systems are consulted about road conditions. Careful consideration is given to the most dangerous bus routes in the district.

## WHAT FACTORS ARE CONSIDERED WHEN MAKING THE DECISION TO CLOSE SCHOOL?

The safety of all Haralson County children is the primary concern. Even if it looks clear on your street, dangerous conditions may exist in some other part of the school district. In deciding whether the children will be safe, the following factors are considered:

- Information on road conditions from the Director of Transportation and law enforcement, including whether the roads are iced or icing.
- Time snow or ice conditions start and the amount
- Weather predictions
- Building conditions (e.g. whether we have power and heat)
- Parking lot and sidewalk conditions; and
- Temperature and wind chill factor.

## WHO MAKES THE DECISION?

The Superintendent of schools is responsible for making the final decision, based on the above factors and recommendations from the district staff.

## WHEN IS THE DECISION MADE?

The Superintendent tries to make the decision by 5:30 a.m. so that the broadcast media can be notified; however, there may be a time when the decision could be later depending upon the weather system.

## HOW IS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED?

Haralson County school closings will be announced on the local and metro broadcast media outlets, the school system website, [www.haralson.k12.ga.us](http://www.haralson.k12.ga.us), and on the automated voice phone message system.

**IF THERE IS NO "CLOSING MESSAGE" ON HARALSON COUNTY SCHOOLS SYSTEM WEBSITE OR MAIN GREETING, THEN SCHOOL IS OPEN.**

## WHAT IF SCHOOL CLOSURES DURING THE DAY?

If school closes during the school day all students will be sent home in the usual manner (bus, cars, etc.) unless other directions are on file with the teacher. It is impossible for the school staff to accept phone directions during emergency closures. Parents should plan in advance for early school closings. Make sure that the child knows where to go, how to get there and what to do upon arrival. The public will be notified by the same methods listed above.

## WHAT IF SCHOOL OPENING IS DELAYED?

If school opening is delayed, please follow the same routine/schedule as normal, but push back the start time by two hours.