INCLEMENT WEATHER

Background

The Division is committed to ensuring the physical safety of students. On occasions this will entail making decisions with respect to whether students engage in outdoor activities during inclement conditions.

Procedures

1. Decisions regarding student involvement in any outdoor activities should take into consideration inclement weather that may be related to any or all of the following conditions:

   1.1 Continuous rain
   1.2 Harsh wind
   1.3 Extreme cold
   1.4 Other severe conditions

2. Students are not to go outside for recess if the local temperature is -25°C or colder, or if the temperature and wind chill factor combined are -25°C or colder. When temperatures, inclusive of wind chill, are between -20°C and -25°C, schools have the discretion to shorten recesses.

   2.1 The source used for determining the local temperature shall be a credible source determined by the school’s administration.
   2.2 The source chosen by the school administration shall remain consistent throughout the school year.

3. Each school should have locally developed procedures in place to address the following matters:

   3.1 When students arriving at the beginning of the day may enter the school on inclement days.
   3.2 Communicating to students that they are to re-enter the school at the end of the day, on inclement days, if their transportation homeward is unavailable or delayed.
   3.3 Handling parental requests for students to remain indoors during recess.
   3.4 Handling students who are underdressed for the weather.

4. The school’s inclement weather protocols should be periodically communicated, in the school’s communications with families, at appropriate times.