

# HWDSB

## Winter Weather

### Bus cancellations and school closures

#### How does HWDSB decide on bus cancellations and school closures?

- When bad weather is expected, Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) carriers check weather reports, road conditions and road clearing, starting as early as 4 a.m.
- Based on this information, the Director of Education makes the decision in conjunction with Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.
- For clear communication, HWDSB **does not** announce when schools are open – we only announce when schools are closed.



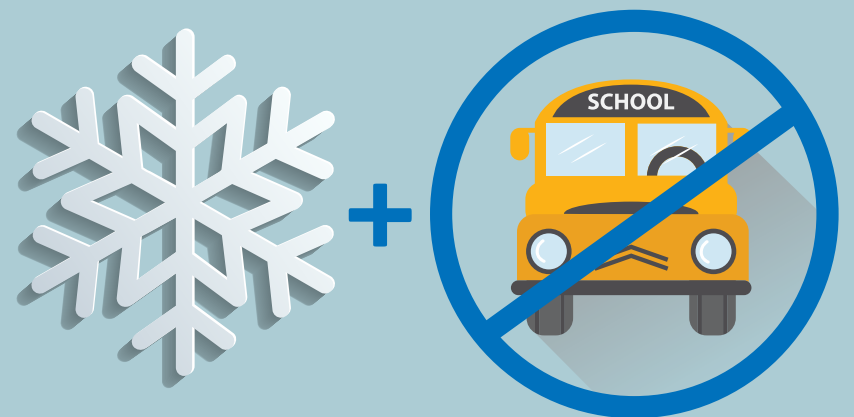
#### When do we make decisions?

HWDSB will announce the cancellation of school and board operations by 6 a.m. based on the best information at the time.

#### The HWDSB Rule:

**Inclement weather  
+ Bus cancellation  
= No school**

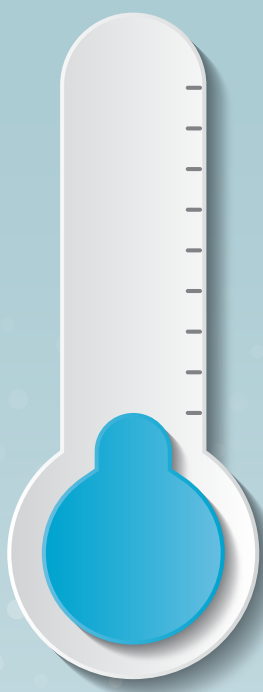
When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools. Some boards have different procedures.



= No school

#### What's the rule for extreme cold?

In extreme cold, buses may not start or run as expected and HWDSB may need to cancel transportation. But this **does not** automatically mean that schools will close. *In 2014, Trustees gave the Director (or designate) the discretion to keep schools open when busing is cancelled due to extreme cold.*



#### Where do I find cancellation information?

We will share this announcement in a variety of ways:

- The HWDSB website [www.hwdsb.on.ca](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca)
- HWDSB's Twitter account [www.twitter.com/HWDSB](http://www.twitter.com/HWDSB)
- HWSTS website [www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca)
- Local media outlets:  
*CBC Hamilton, CHCH TV, CHML, CKPC Brantford, Hamilton Community News, Hamilton Spectator.*



Families always have a choice

A school cancellation is a tough decision – and some families may disagree with HWDSB's call. Families can always make the choice they feel is best when it comes to sending their child to school.