Severe Weather at **HWDSB**

During severe winter weather, the difficult decision to remain open or to close is always made with the safety and security of our students and staff in mind.

Here are some guidelines to remember:

Weather Cancellations

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.

HWDSB will announce the cancellation of school and board operations by 6 a.m. based on the best information at the time. We share this announcement on the HWDSB website, HWDSB's Twitter account and on the HWSTS website. We also contact local media outlets including CHCH TV, CHML and the Hamilton Spectator.
HWDSB makes a decisions by 6 a.m.

No School

School boards have varied policies on cancellations. **The HWDSB Rule is: Severe 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.

Extreme Weather 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. The Director (or designate) has discretion to keep schools open when busing is cancelled due to extreme cold.

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.

Resources:

HWDSB's website - Severe Weather Information: **www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/severe-weather**
Inclement Weather and Board Cancellations Policy: **www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/policies**
Inclement Weather information video: **https://youtu.be/WMkROsXELfY**