

# East of Thunder Bay Transportation Consortium



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| <b>Transportation Services During Inclement Weather</b> |   | 1 of 2   |
| <b>Transportation - Safety</b>                          | Date  | Revised  |
|   | July 2011   | Nov 2019 |
| <b>Policy – M04 304</b>                                 | In the interest of student safety student transportation may be cancelled.  |          |
| <b>Operational Procedure</b>                            | <p>The East of Thunder Bay Transportation Coordinator and the area transportation company may cancel student transportation service (by route, by area or by entire jurisdiction after consultation with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Canada</li> <li>• Ministry of Transportation</li> <li>• Ontario Provincial Police</li> <li>• Local Bus Drivers</li> <li>• Area School Principals, if required</li> </ul> <p>The Transportation Coordinator or designate will communicate the decision in the following manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Education</li> <li>• Board of Directors of the Consortium</li> <li>• Local Radio Stations (CFNO, CBC and Radio Canada)</li> <li>• Consortium Website Update – <a href="http://www.etbtc.com">www.etbtc.com</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mass E-mail sent when website is updated</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Consortium Facebook page</li> </ul> <p>During inclement weather (extreme cold or storms), parents/guardians are responsible to decide whether to send their child to the bus stop or to school.</p> <p>Schools will remain open unless otherwise determined by the Directors of Education or designates of the affected school boards.</p> |          |

### **Weather Conditions**

The Transportation Coordinator or designate, keeping the safety of the students in the forefront, shall use his/her best judgment in determining whether to run the bus route under the following conditions:

- Blizzard conditions;
- Poor visibility;
- Freezing rain; and
- Other unsafe road conditions

The decision to cancel buses will be made between 6 am and 6:30 am when possible.

### **Extreme Cold**

In the interest of student safety, when the ambient temperature (actual) temperature reaches -40 Celsius, school bus transportation will be cancelled for the day. This does not include the windchill factor but refers specifically to ambient temperature.

In making the determination to cancel, the Transportation Coordinator or designate may consider the weather phenomenon which occurs where temperatures will continue to drop after sunrise.

### **Routes Cancellations**

The School Principals of the affected routes will relay the cancellation information to their staff and follow their own internal policies which may include calling trees etc.. The East of Thunder Bay Transportation Coordinator will contact media and other key stakeholders.

Where student transportation services are cancelled in the morning, this normally means they are cancelled for the entire day. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to arrange alternate transportation for their child when schools remain open and they chose to bring them.

### **Early Dismissal**

A decision to dismiss students early will be made by the affected Directors of Education or designates. If students are dismissed early, the schools are responsible for contacting parents.