



MHSD NEWSLETTER

A quarterly newsletter brought to you by the Mountain Home School District Office.

QUARTER 2, 2018

12/04/2018



Happy Holidays!

I would like to take a few minutes to provide you with some information regarding the Mountain Home School District. With our snow storm over the weekend I thought it would be wise to send you the procedure that takes place on determining if schools are to be closed due to adverse weather. For many, this may be a repeat of information, but I think it's important to review the information.

If snow is in the forecast I typically get up at 3:00 A.M. to begin an inspection of area roads. What this means is I actually go out and drive as many roads in town and the surrounding areas as possible to check road conditions. I drive these routes in a two wheel drive car to get an accurate idea of the road conditions. If our school buses can safely travel in the conditions typically school will remain in session. The decision to close school is made by 5:50 A.M. as we have buses picking up students around 6:10 A.M.. If school is to be closed, notification will be sent about the closure over social media, text messaging, e-mail, and local news agencies will be made aware of the closure. If no closure is announced, school will be in session that day.

I understand parents sometimes are frustrated when schools are kept open during winter conditions. Our job as a school district is to educate the children of the community. If we can safely transport students on inclement weather days that is exactly what we do. As always, it is up to the parent to make the decision they feel is best for their student as to attending school on inclement weather days. Should a parent decide to keep their child home on these days, they simply need to call the office and excuse their child for the day. I absolutely support the parent's right to make that decision.

Another topic that I am asked about often is what the procedure for recess is on inclement weather days. Recess time is an important time for students to be physically active and to build positive social interactions with their peers. As such, if possible, students will be allowed outside unless temperatures are severe. As a guideline, if temperatures are above +10 degrees Fahrenheit students will be allowed outside for recess. If temperatures fall below +10 degrees Fahrenheit recess may be shortened or eliminated. These are guidelines that each building follows. Factors such as wind chill and playground conditions also contribute to the determination on whether to have students go outside for recess. Please remember to send your student dressed appropriately for the weather conditions each day.

There are approximately two and a half weeks remaining before Christmas break. The first semester ends on December 20th. Secondary students are quickly approaching first semester finals. All students will be released for the break on Thursday, December 20th and classes will resume on January 8th.

I want to thank all of you for the support you give to the students in our community and the support you give to our staff and to the district. It is the people that make Mountain Home the amazing community it is! If you have any questions please give me a call at (208) 587-2580 or e-mail me at gilbert_jg@mtnhomesd.org.

Respectfully,

James Gilbert
Superintendent
Mountain Home School District #193