

December 2010 Newsletter Article

Inclement Weather

Brrr, it's getting cold outside. Winter has arrived, so we'd like to remind parents to please dress children appropriately for the weather when getting them ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly, so please select suitable outerwear for the weather and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

Should inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise parents of bus cancellations using various communications tools, including automated telephone messages, details posted on the division home page (www.eips.ca), in the *Bus Status* section of our division and school websites, on our main switchboard (780-464-3477) and community hotline (780-417-8122), and through local radio stations. We strive to share all information by 6:30 a.m.

EIPS believes it is the parents' right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during inclement weather conditions. Parents must use their discretion when sending their children to school during inclement weather, even when buses are running and schools are open.

EIPS' procedures state bus service may be suspended when the temperature reaches -40°C **including** wind chill factor as measured by Environment Canada at 5:00 a.m. and/or due to adverse weather or road conditions. Bus service may be suspended on a region-by-region or route-by-route basis. When school bus services are suspended, schools shall remain open to students.

For more information, contact EIPS' Student Transportation department at 780-417-8151.