

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF PEEL REGION

STOPR

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Statement	<p>STOPR has established a procedure specific to inclement weather circumstances, to assess weather and road conditions and, where appropriate, recommend bus service cancellation and/or school closure to senior administration at each school board. This procedure includes communication processes to be used in the event that bus cancellation or school closure is to be implemented.</p>	
Procedures	<p>From November 1 to April 30, designated STOPR staff will assess forecast weather conditions and communicate with appropriate regional and municipal staff to ascertain current and projected road conditions. Where existing or forecast conditions have the potential to compromise safe operation of the school bus system, STOPR staff will recommend cancellation of bus service to designated senior administrators at each school board.</p> <p>Bus cancellation options include County of Dufferin only, Town of Caledon only, both County of Dufferin and Town of Caledon, City of Mississauga only, and all buses within the Boards' jurisdictions. In circumstances where existing and forecast conditions are extremely severe, a recommendation to close schools and offices is made to the Director of Education at each school board. In all circumstances of service cancellation, the objective is to finalize a decision and initiate the communication process by 6:00 am.</p> <p>Bus cancellation decisions are communicated through approximately 15 radio and television stations and are also posted on the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, Peel District School Board, and STOPR websites. The 15 media outlets, to be used for communication, are specifically designated each year and identified to all school administrators in early November, together with predefined cancellation messages, for distribution to all potentially effected students and parents. Designated media outlets are also identified on the stopr.ca website. In the event of a required cancellation, designated STOPR staff are responsible for communication of the cancellation information to the predetermined media outlets and boards' communication departments as a first priority.</p>	

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Procedures	<p>Required bus cancellations are in place for the entire school day regardless of changed weather or road conditions.</p> <p>In circumstances where buses have operated in the morning and weather and road conditions deteriorate throughout the school day, buses will operate at normal dismissal time as there are insufficient resources and time to ensure that all parents of transported students are advised and positioned to receive their children at an earlier time than usual. In extreme circumstances of deteriorating weather and road conditions throughout the day or a declared state of emergency, it may not be possible to reasonably operate buses and students will remain at their school until they are picked up by a parent.</p>	