

Scott County Public Schools
2020-2021 Inclement Weather Plan

Inclement Weather Plan (IWP)

The Inclement Weather Plan (IWP) is a program that encourages the continuation of academic instruction on days when school would otherwise be cancelled. The IWP days are designed to function in the same manner as our virtual/remote learning day on Wednesdays. Each school will create plans to deliver instruction to every student in the district and provide for student and teacher interaction on IWP days, with the ultimate goal of continuing instruction.

These days will count as instructional days for Scott County Public Schools (SCPS). The Inclement Weather Plan process shall be a continuation of learning that is occurring on regular student attendance days.

Attendance/Duties

Students

As Inclement Weather Plan days are considered instructional days, all PK-12 students are expected to participate. We will follow the SCPS guidance for virtual attendance on these days. Schools will track and record attendance in PowerSchool for participation in IWP instructional days.

Teachers

Inclement Weather Plan days are considered teacher instructional days and count towards fulfilling the number of instructional days required by contract. As such, teachers are required to work virtually on IWP days. They do not have to report to the school building, but must be available to students during normal school hours. Teachers should be accessible to the students virtually or by other communication methods in case of questions about the coursework. However, other tasks such as calling students or conducting record-keeping tasks may also be assigned at the discretion of the principal. Core instruction will be met through a combination of in-person and remote (synchronous or asynchronous) instruction.

If a teacher is unable to work on an IWP day, leave time must be used according to division policy. A substitute will *not* be required.

Building Principals and Central Office

The Building Principals and Central Office are required to work on IWP days. It is the Superintendent's discretion as to the work location and duties.

Counselors/Librarians

Similar to teachers, school counselors and librarians are required to work on IWP days. It is at the building principal's discretion as to the work location and duties.

Support Staff

Support staff may be assigned responsibilities on IWP days by their school principal or supervisor.

- Paraprofessionals/Personal Care Aides

Depending on the needs of the division, Paraprofessionals and Personal Care Aides may be assigned responsibilities on IWP days. If working on IWP days, they may help monitor the virtual classroom, make “check-in” calls with students, or perform any number of tasks related to typical duties.

- Clerical and Technology

Depending on the specific needs of the department, the supervisor may require on-site work on IWP days or allow remote work, if available.

- School Nutrition

The School Nutrition Director will provide a plan for school nutrition personnel to meet any needs in the cafeterias on an IWP day.

- Custodial and Maintenance

Custodial staff and maintenance will report to work as normal.

- Bus Drivers and Bus Assistants

Depending on the needs of the division, bus drivers and bus assistants may be assigned responsibilities on IWP days. Staff will be compensated for actual hours worked.

Meals

Breakfast and lunch will be provided to students in advance of the scheduled IWP days by distributing meals to the in-person learners as they leave the buildings at the end of the last school day in attendance before the closure. Full virtual/remote students will receive food by the normal delivery process with a possible change in delivery day based on weather conditions.

Extra-Curricular Activities

It is recommended to not hold extra-curricular activities on IWP days. The IWP days *do count as instructional days*; however, if school is closed due to travel hazards, it is *not* recommended for students to gather for extracurricular activities after school hours.

Instruction Approaches

Non-Traditional Instruction days are not a “free day” for teachers or students. They are considered instructional days where teaching and learning occurs.

The format that will be used for IWP days is the same as what is used on the virtual/remote learning day on Wednesdays. Teachers will follow pacing guides and continue providing instruction remotely. For some students, packets may be sent home for the duration of the IWP days.

Technology Needs

Students were surveyed at the beginning of the year for technology needs of all learners. Families indicated if they had technology needs for items such as: chromebooks, internet access, the need for packets, etc. If a student has a need that has not been identified, please contact the school that your child attends as soon as possible.

The Division and School websites will have a link dedicated to IWP days and general information.

Students with Disabilities

SCPS will educate all students on Inclement Weather Plan days. The educational needs of students with disabilities on IWP days will be met through accommodated and modified instruction with accommodations as outlined in the Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Special education teachers should develop a plan relating specifically to how IEP accommodations will be met on IWP days (***IWP days are defined as virtual/remote learning days due to inclement weather.***) The IWP days are designed to function in the same manner as our virtual/remote learning day on Wednesdays. It is especially important to understand what type or level of parental support the student will have at home on IWP days before deciding on an educational plan for IWP days. IWP day procedures would vary depending on a student's individual needs but could include any of the following examples:

- the regular classroom teacher adjusting the lesson to meet accommodations,
- the special education teacher creating student specific lessons,
- the regular education and special education teachers working together to adjust and create lessons, which could be in the following forms (special education tool kits):
 - sending familiar manipulatives home with the students,
 - downloading lessons or educational games onto a tablet and sending it home,
 - paper packets,
 - creating lessons focusing on life skills,
 - using technology to create face-to-face learning experiences.

The regular education and special education teachers must be available to students virtually, or by other communication methods in case of questions about the coursework.

English/Language Learners should continue to receive services on IWP days

IWP day procedures would vary depending on a student's individual needs. The English Learner teacher must be available to students virtually, or by other communication methods in case of questions about the coursework.

Procedures for Decision Making

SCPS will begin informing families in early November about the IWP Program, before inclement weather creates schedule changes.

The Transportation Team and Superintendent monitors weather forecasts and checks roads

Roads and multiple online weather sites are checked. TV and radio forecasts are considered. Occasionally, Superintendents and Transportation Managers from other divisions are in communication. Decisions to use IWP Days or an altered schedule will be made as early as reliable information is available to make a sound decision.

IWP days will be used for school closures during the 2020-21 school year. Scott County Public Schools

may also utilize a traditional two (2) hour delay schedule.

Checking Roads

The Transportation Team drives routes to check conditions of roads that several buses will be traveling. In traditionally shady, slick, and those areas that seem to be more troublesome due to their steepness, accessibility, width, etc. A decision to alter the schedule may be made at this time.

The Transportation Manager checks the weather forecast for the day, and calls Transportation Team members and asks for an update on the road conditions near their homes. A decision to alter the schedule may be made at this time. If the schedule is altered, the Central Office Staff begins calling radio and television stations. The Superintendent and/or Chief Technology Officer sends out a message via Social Media, email, voice call, and/or text message.

Temperature concerns

When temperatures are expected to be below 10 degrees we will consider making a schedule change. Factors to be considered during these conditions include cloud cover, wind chill, radiant heat factor, and hourly temperature changes. When temperatures drop to single digits during the time of normal bus routes, a delayed schedule may be used. This will enable custodial and maintenance staff more time to ensure that all areas of the buildings are heated properly prior to the arrival of students and staff and that buses are able to start and warm appropriately prior to departure for routes.

Emphasis on Safety of Students and Employees

The safety of our students and staff are the most important factor when decisions are made to alter school schedules. Other factors include current road conditions, future weather predictions, and comfort/function of buildings.

Example: Roads might be snow/ice covered at 5 AM with forecasts showing more snow/ice to follow, and there would be a need to close; however, if roads are snow covered and the forecast is calling for the snow to stop and temperatures to rise quickly, a two-hour delay schedule could be utilized.

Forecasts are not always accurate, so it is necessary to continue checking roads throughout the morning on a day of a delayed schedule.

The transportation team recognizes the burden that is placed upon parents when a decision is made to change the school schedule. The team will always try to consider the importance of parental convenience when making decisions to alter school schedules. However, student and staff safety will be the primary factor that is considered.

The goal is to have the announcement of the schedule change to radio/television stations and to parents/guardians as soon as possible.

On IWP days and division-wide, teachers do *not* report to schools, but must be available to students during normal school hours, virtually or by other communication methods in case of questions about the coursework. On unscheduled early release days, teachers will not be expected to teach virtually during that time; however, virtual or remote learning will be provided to students when they miss an entire

day.

Two-Hour Delay

When the school division is on a two-hour delay, classes will begin two hours later than normal time. The school day will end at 3:15.