



# LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

---

Russell Ciesielski, Superintendent  
7205 W. Silver Lake Rd. / Linden, MI 48451  
[rciesiel@lindenschools.org](mailto:rciesiel@lindenschools.org)  
Ph: 810-591-0980 Fax: 810-591-5587

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We often receive questions about why school is cancelled for bad weather, so I thought we'd post this letter to our website as a means of explaining what goes into these types of decisions.

The process, when making the decision to cancel school for weather conditions, is ongoing. Linden Schools is in contact with other local districts, the Genesee County Road Commission, our transportation department, and local police departments. There is no exact science to making this decision, and student safety will always be the determining factor. Usually, when conditions are questionable from snowfall, we have people out in our community to help assess them. First, roads are driven very early in the morning by the heads of our transportation and operations departments to experience travel conditions firsthand. While the main roads may be in fair shape, the condition of side/secondary roads is a major concern. Our first priority is the safety of our students, many of whom are standing alongside these slippery side roads waiting for buses.

In addition to traveling roads, we also depend heavily on the guidance of the Genesee County Road Commission. We are fortunate to have a good relationship with this agency and are able to get reports of road conditions firsthand. We know when crews are scheduled to be clearing roads, their success in clearing, and what level of roads they are working on (i.e. - Freeways, Main Trunk Lines, or Subdivisions/ Back Roads).

In the case of extreme cold temperatures, we also depend heavily on recommendations by the Genesee County Health Department and Genesee County Emergency Management office as well as guidelines by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention in determining when it is too dangerous for students to be outside for even brief amounts of time, such as waiting at a bus stop or walking to school. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention does recommend that, in cold weather, adults and children should wear a hat, scarf or knit mask to cover their face and mouth, sleeves that are snug to the wrist, mittens (they are warmer than gloves), water-resistant coats and boots and several layers of loose-fitting clothing in order to avoid hypothermia and/or frostbite.

As you can see, whether or not to close school is a decision that is never taken lightly. Please know that the safety of our students is always the main factor in how such decisions are made. Safety will continue to always be our first priority. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Additional information can be found in the [November edition of Supt's Corner](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Russell C. Ciesielski'.

Russell Ciesielski