

## **Business and Noninstructional Operations**

### **DELAYED OPENING OR CLOSURE DUE TO FOG**

Procedures for the operation of school bus transportation, during for or other atmospheric conditions which reduce visibility on the roadway to 200 feet or less during regular home-to-school transportation services, have been developed over the years with the cooperation of school districts and the Office of the Kern County Superintendent of Schools.

1. Complete closing or delayed opening of all schools in the central portion of the county
  - a. In the event of reduced visibility over a major portion of the valley, a decision to close all schools in the central portion of the county would be made only upon the recommendation of a committee composed of representatives of selected districts in the central area, and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools. In the event of such a decision, a general announcement will be made ordering the complete closing of schools. Such announcement will be made the day before complete closing of schools.
  - b. A decision for a general, two-hour delay in the opening of all schools in the central portion of the county will be made and announced in the same manner.
2. Partial closing or delayed opening due to spotty fog conditions
  - a. In all situations of isolated low visibility (spotty fog) other than the extreme mentioned above, the following will apply:
    - (1) The Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation, or designee, will drive to three places in the district to see if there is 200 feet of visibility at each location. If there is not 200 feet of visibility at any one location, a 2-hour delay will be called into the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Alert Line prior to 6:20 a.m.
    - (2) Students and parents should listen to the radio or a Bakersfield television station on mornings when fog, other weather, and/or road conditions indicate the possibility of school being closed or transportation delayed. School delay/closure information is also accessible on the Kern County Superintendent of Schools website at <http://alertline.kern.org>
    - (3) If the district decides to go from a delay to a closure, the Superintendent or his designee will call the Kern County Schools of Schools Alert Line by 8:30 a.m. The Alert Line will relay the information to the news media.

### 3. Reduced Visibility During Trip

In the event that school bus transportation experiences reduced visibility of 200 feet or less during school activity trips, it shall be the discretionary authority of the school bus driver to determine if it is unsafe to continue operation of the bus.