

(ATTACHMENT 1) ACTION ON RESOLUTION 1819R-013 BY DIRECTORS PHILLIPS AND SAIN REGARDING GUIDELINES FOR THE CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

Resolution 1819R-013

By Directors Phillips and Sain

WHEREAS, Administrative Procedure 4.01(3), Emergency Closings, states, "The decision to close schools because of weather conditions shall reside with the superintendent or his/her designee;" and

WHEREAS, Knowing the factors that are considered when determining whether to close schools due to inclement weather may be beneficial in helping parents, students, and staff to better prepare for the closing of schools and offices due to inclement weather; and

WHEREAS, Established guidelines for emergency school closures due to inclement weather would help to ensure consistency in determining whether to close schools and would provide parameters for our families and staff in determining the best mode of safe transportation relative to navigating the weather in getting to school or work; and

WHEREAS, Many MPS parents rely upon their schools to provide meals and shelter for their children during the school day; and

WHEREAS, When schools are closed due to inclement weather, the decision to do so is generally announced without much notice (usually the morning of the closure), and parents often find it difficult to make arrangements for their children who are too young to stay at home alone and unsupervised; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Board of School Directors direct the Administration to ~~establish~~ update Administrative Policy and Procedure 4.01: Emergency Closings, to reflect its current ~~and promulgate~~ general guidelines for the closure of schools due to inclement weather, to include a scale or range of temperatures (in relation to heat and cold) that could trigger the closing of school, as well as gauges of such other weather conditions as wind, rain, ice, and snow; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in ~~establishing~~ updating this policy and procedure to reflect current ~~these~~ guidelines, the Administration continue to communicate with and consider the factors upon which the other districts in southeastern Wisconsin base their decisions on; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That such guidelines shall be an advisement tool and shall not infringe upon the discretionary authority already established for the superintendent; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Administration investigate whether it would be feasible to designate some sites distributed throughout the district as emergency or contingency shelters that the district would keep open when schools are closed, both for inclement weather and on other non-attendance days, for student who are in need of food and shelter; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the location of these emergency or contingency shelters be determined by demographic data (e.g., free or reduced lunch, homelessness); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Administration bring back to the Board the results of its investigation, as well as ~~any recommendations for implementation, inclusive of parameters being added to current~~ the updated versions of Administrative Policy and Procedure 4.01: Emergency Closings, inclement weather policies and procedures no later than September 2019 ~~two months after the adoption of this resolution.~~

January 24, 2019