



# Lake County School District No. 7

*"Preparing Today for a Successful Tomorrow"*

## District Press Release – School Closures

12/30/2016

Lake County School District #7 would like to remind parents and community members that the district may need to occasionally close or delay school for inclement weather during the winter season. When making the decision to close schools the balance of education and safety interest are weighed, with student and staff safety being the top priority.

Sometimes events that may influence a decision to close schools are not always weather related. Interruptions in the ability to heat schools and/or provide power or water to the buildings may result in a school closure as well as natural events such as earthquakes, floods, or fires. Of all the events that could result in a school closure, weather that brings high winds, snow, hail, or other elements that affect transportation safety is the most common reason.

The district has outlined procedures to follow when making any type of school closure/delay decisions. These procedures include careful monitoring of weather reports, coordinating with the Lake County Road Department and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and evaluating the district's ability to safely open school doors on time. Road closures or single lane traffic may be unacceptable for bus travel and could result in either a closure or a delay.

The district's bus fleet includes buses that have drop-down chains, studded snow tires both front and back, and strobe lights for low visibility conditions. "Drivers in the district are experienced in inclement weather and aren't afraid to make the decision to turn around in unsafe conditions", states Cahill.

The decision to close/delay school and/or school functions is usually made as early in the morning as possible but could occur any time throughout the day based on current weather conditions. When the decision is made to close or delay school, the following methods are used to communicate this closure to parents and the community:

### **SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION**

In the event of a school closure, due to inclement weather or other emergency, Lake County School District #7 will notify the following:

- **All local radio and television stations**
  - (KLCR 95.3 FM, KORV 93.5 FM, Channel 5 KOB, Channel 10 KTVL, Channel 12 KDRV)
- **Lake County School District #7 website: [www.lakeview.k12.or.us](http://www.lakeview.k12.or.us)**
- **After 7:30 AM, information will also be available from the District Office 541-947-3347**