

# POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

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<b>Subject:</b> Emergency Closings and Delayed Openings of Schools	<b>Date Approved:</b> December, 1979 February 21, 2006 May 26, 2009 <b>Date Revised:</b> June 15, 1982, December 19, 2005 March 17, 2009 <b>Date Effective:</b> June 15, 1982 February 21, 2006, May 26, 2009

## 1. PURPOSE

To establish procedures governing the emergency closings and delayed openings of schools in Somerset County.

## 2. GUIDELINES

The Board of Education establishes this policy so that the Superintendent of Schools may close schools or delay opening of schools due to conditions which would endanger the lives and well-being of students, teachers, and other personnel. These conditions may be weather, heat/light failure, natural disasters or other temporary unsafe conditions. The Superintendent, or his/her designated representative, may make this decision, based upon recommendations from staff personnel, school principals, law enforcement or civil defense authorities, health department officers, or other appropriate government agency heads.

Incidents involving school closings or delayed openings will be properly announced to the public as expediently as possible. Weather closings, for example, should be announced by telephone, radio, and television as soon as possible before school is scheduled to open.

In case of early closings, after school has begun session for the day, every effort will be made to make provisions for the safety and welfare of the students. Whenever possible, parents should be notified prior to the release of the students.

It is the responsibility of the Transportation Department and school principals to notify the bus drivers in cases of early closings.