



Wichita Falls ISD Severe Weather Protocol

The following information is to be used in the event of severe weather in the North Texas area. Because weather can be unpredictable, we ask parents to stay close to their phone, computer and/or television. As we receive updates, we will post information on social media and will contact local media.

In the event of severe weather in our area:

- **Students will be moved to safe shelter locations when a tornado warning is in effect.**
- **Parents who wish to retrieve their students amid severe weather may do so until sirens are activated in Wichita Falls. When sirens have been activated, all school personnel will be unable to serve parents as they will be in the school's safe shelter location.**
- **Only individuals who have been previously approved to pick up students will be allowed to sign a student out. The process will be streamlined to the extent possible without compromising student safety. No students will be released after the sirens have been activated as students and staff will be in safe shelter locations.**
- **School buses will not begin afternoon routes if the National Weather Service has issued a tornado warning for the Wichita Falls area or if local meteorologists have communicated with the district that a transportation delay would be prudent.**
- **If a warning occurs after buses have departed, buses will be diverted to the nearest pre-determined safe place along the bus route. Parents will be notified of any transportation delays.**
- **Prior to a tornado warning being issued, students who drive may leave independently only if a parent or guardian has notified the school. However, when a tornado warning for the area is in effect and/or sirens have been activated, students will not be permitted to leave independently.**
- **The Wichita Falls ISD's schools and facilities are not equipped to serve as community storm shelters.**