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707 E. Third Street, Elk Rapids, Michigan 49629
Phone 231-264-8692 Fax 231-264-6538

Stephen R. Prissel, Superintendent
e-mail: sprissel@erschools.com
Irene Schmidt, Executive Secretary
e-mail: ischmidt@erschools.com

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Elk Rapids Schools Parents/Guardians and Staff,

Inclement weather is something we are all too familiar with in Northern Michigan. As you are well aware, we occasionally have to cancel school due to weather conditions. This cancelling of school is something we take very seriously and attempt to make the best decision possible. Please know that we are assessing the weather and roads at approximately 4:30 am. Our road condition assessment, along with information from the National Weather Service, other forecast support and County Road Commissions help assist us in making the important decision of whether or not school will be in session. Our school district is geographically long and narrow and spans 126 square miles. We could have treacherous conditions north of Elk Rapids and favorable in Williamsburg one day and vice versa. These varying conditions are also taken into consideration. Even with all of this information, it is difficult some mornings on what to predict.

Because of certain transportation obligations, we must make cancellation decisions by 5:30 am. A lot can happen with Northern Michigan weather between 5:30 am and the start of our school day at the middle/high and elementary schools. Therefore, if weather conditions deteriorate after our 5:30 am decision, please know that students would be excused from school if the parent/guardian feels that road conditions are too dangerous. The safety of our students is paramount. Again, we take inclement weather and school cancellation very serious. In the event weather conditions change rapidly, it is certainly your decision on the attendance of your child. Travel safe this winter season and please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your cooperation and support of Elk Rapids Schools.

Yours in Education,

Stephen R. Prissel
Superintendent

" WE ARE E.R. ! "