

Houghton Lake Community Schools

6001 West Houghton Lake Drive • Houghton Lake, Michigan 48629

Cold Weather Notice

Dear Bobcat Families:

Winter weather in Houghton Lake can be tough, and at times ,even dangerous. Deciding on when to close schools based on temperature is never easy. The National Weather Service issues ADVISORIES when wind chills of -15F are predicted, and WARNINGS at -25F, but they do not make recommendations as to when schools should close based upon temperature or wind chill.

So the question remains: "How cold is too cold to have school?" Unfortunately, there is not a simple answer to this question. Frostbite can occur on exposed skin in about 30 minutes at wind chills of -25F. At wind chills of -40F, frostbite can affect exposed skin in as little as 10 minutes. Most districts, including Houghton Lake, use -20F as a marker that may force school to close.

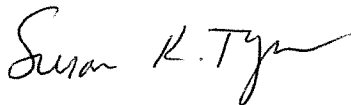
Please note that every reporting entity varies in their readings, and our school buildings and transportation fleet are warm and safe, yet, exposure at bus stops and for those walking to school can be dangerous with long exposures.

Canceling school isn't taken lightly...we know it puts a hardship on families for supervision. You can check local TV, radio listings, facebook, and expect a School Messenger call if indeed we close.

Please have a plan for dressing your children appropriately and limiting exposure if we have school, and be prepared for a school cancellation if necessary. Thank you for all you do in support of your children and Houghton Lake Community Schools.

Go Bobcats!

Sincerely,



Susan K. Tyer, Superintendent
Houghton Lake Community Schools

Administration: phone 989-366-2035 fax 989-422-6606

www.hlcsk12.net

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Will be a destination district recognized for its quality programming and performance.