

## NON-INSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

**Policy Title: Bus Operation in Inclement Weather**

**Code No. 711.8**

The Osage Community School District buses will not operate when weather conditions due to fog, rain, snow or other natural elements make it unsafe to do so. The final judgment as to when conditions are unsafe to operate buses will be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his designee. The Superintendent, or his designee will be assisted by the Bus Supervisor in making the final determination. However, no driver will be required to operate a bus when in the driver's opinion it is unsafe to do so. Because weather conditions may vary considerably throughout the district and may change quickly, the best possible information available will be utilized in the decision making process.

ON PICKUP ROUTES: Weather conditions may deteriorate after drivers have started their routes. If visibility is severely limited and the driver does not consider it safe to stop the bus on the highway, said driver shall continue on the route stopping only where visibility is adequate. The driver shall, as soon as possible, notify the Superintendent's office of pupils not picked up. Office personnel will then call the parents.

ON RETURN ROUTES: Weather conditions may deteriorate after drivers have started their routes. If visibility is severely limited, and the driver does not consider it safe to stop the bus on the highway, said driver shall continue on the route to the next scheduled stop where visibility is considered to be adequate. At this stop, all pupils whose homes were previously passed will be let off the bus. Pupils should, as soon as possible, notify their parents. The driver shall notify the Superintendent's office of any pupils who were let off the bus at a location other than their homes. Office personnel will then call the parents.

ON ACTIVITY TRIPS: If weather conditions deteriorate while an activity trip is in progress, the driver and sponsor of the activity should carefully evaluate the situation. If, in their opinion, it is unsafe to travel on the highway, they should contact an Osage school administrator. The administrator will then inform the public of the current status of the bus and its passengers.

Legal Ref: Code of Iowa Chapter 321.372.

Adopted September 12, 1983  
Revised December 19, 2005  
Revised April 20, 2015