



Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Chris Reykdal, State Superintendent

All students prepared
for post-secondary pathways,
careers, & civic engagement.

February 12, 2019

To Superintendents and Business Officers:

As you know, Governor Inslee issued a proclamation on February 8, 2019 declaring a statewide state of emergency related to this past week's severe winter storm. I have been in contact with the Governor, and he plans to lift the proclamation at midnight on February 15, 2019. Many of you have canceled school in the face of this storm and have asked the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) about the possibility of getting those missed days waived.

OSPI is authorized, pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 392-129-105(3) and WAC 392-129-135, to provide school districts the opportunity to receive their full annual apportionment allocation. **School districts will not lose state apportionment dollars for days waived by OSPI due to the winter storm and Governor's state of emergency.** To apply for continuation of state support during this emergency, school districts must submit a letter to OSPI containing the information identified in WAC 392-129-125. Since districts are not required to make up days lost related to this emergency, application letters should not identify days that you have scheduled as lost days as required under WAC 392-129-125(6).

While the law allows OSPI to waive missed school days, in no case can OSPI waive missed instructional hours. Even when a waiver is granted for missed days for a state of emergency declared by the governor, school districts must meet the district-wide annual average total instructional hour offerings, which are defined in RCW 28A.150.220. The law requires an annual average of 1,027 instructional hours. For reference, activities that are allowed to count as instructional hours are defined in RCW 28A.150.205.

Please note the Governor's proclamation applies only to the specific event described in the proclamation. All other natural events, mechanical failures, or other incidents that result in missed school days, prior or subsequent to the severe weather storms, are subject to Chapter 392-129 WAC. School districts must make a reasonable effort to make up missed days related to those other incidents as required by WAC 392-129-105 and WAC 392-129-135.

Please feel free to contact me or T.J. Kelly, OSPI's Interim Chief Financial Officer, with questions. You can contact T.J. at 360-725-6301 or thomas.kelly@k12.wa.us.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris P.S. Reykdal".

Chris Reykdal
Superintendent of Public Instruction