

**Snow Daze!**

*When considering applying for the position of superintendent, two negatives for me were the calling of snow days and dealing with the budget. So, my first year as superintendent, I had to call 3 snow days and dealt with the leanest state education budget in decades! Ah, what luck.*

*After calling the third snow day that year, I wrote this perspective of what snow days have meant to me over the years. It is my tradition to publish this every year after calling the first snow day which this year was February 27. (Last time we had a snow day was 12.15.2016.)*

**Elementary Student:**

7:30 a.m. Mom to me in bed: "I just heard on the radio there's no school today."

7:31 a.m. Jump out of bed, eat breakfast, play all day in the snow

**High School Student:**

7:00 a.m. Awake, turn on TV; No school today!

7:01 a.m. Back to bed until noon

**Young Teacher:**

6:00 a.m. Call from principal: "No School today."

6:01 a.m. Thought to self: COOL . . . I'm a day ahead on lesson plans now.

6:02 a.m. Back to sleep until 10:00 a.m.

**Assistant Principal:**

5:30 a.m. Call from sick teacher who needs substitute

5:31 a.m. Begin making calls to find sub

5:50 a.m. Finally find a sub!

6:00 a.m. Principal calls: "No school today!"

6:01 a.m. Call back sub and cancel; make calls on phone tree; if I remembered to bring home my paper calendar, see if anyone outside the district needs called to cancel an appointment

6:20 a.m. Maybe catch another hour of sleep

**Principal:**

5:15 a.m. Automated call: No School!

5:20 a.m. Look at online calendar and begin to make plans to reschedule events, appointments, etc. Make a plan to deal with the domino effect of the cancellation. Be glad someone else calls subs.

6:00 a.m. Now fully awake so I might as well do some school work

**Superintendent:**

4:30 a.m. Head mechanic calls from the road; looks like we need a delay

4:31 a.m. Turn on TV, bring up radar on computer; Locate the "Red folder" and codes

4:40 a.m. Call Fort LeBoeuf superintendent to consult; decide late start is good plan

4:45 a.m. Record Alert Solutions message and listen to it

4:47 a.m. Re-record Alert Solutions message because I sound like I'm asleep

4:50 a.m. Go online to schedule call to go out at 5:30 a.m. and wake up everyone in the district to tell them they can sleep two more hours

5:00 a.m. Exercise, if motivated; have some breakfast; watch the weather like it is a movie

6:30 a.m. Transportation director calls (now on the road with head mechanic): "Can't get the kids safely to and from school today."

6:35 a.m. Repeat process followed earlier from 4:40 to 4:50 a.m. but this time, wake everyone to tell them they didn't need to wake up at all!

6:45 a.m. As long as I'm up, I'll just catch up on a little work

12:00 noon Stop working; eat lunch; Look out the window and start thinking about tomorrow

**Looking forward to a snow day as a retiree:**

"They cancelled school today? I thought it was Saturday!"