



WCMS School Ski Trip Policy

A grade/multi-grade ski trip is considered an extra-curricular experience and is granted an exemption to occur during instructional hours due to the time that ski hill operators offer school ski programs.

Organization of Ski Trips

1. Each grade or combination of grades will determine the interest of students and staff in organizing a ski trip each year. Consideration of the feasibility of a ski trip should occur in consultation with students and families.

Expenses/Fees

1. Expenses for a ski trip (lift, lesson, charter coach transportation) will be borne by students through a fee that reflects actual costs.
2. No student shall be excluded from this opportunity for an inability to pay. Any parent requesting assistance in this manner should contact the school administration. The school will cover the share of these student's expenses.
3. In the event that a student does not attend a ski trip for which they have signed up and paid for, they will be reimbursed any expenses or fees for which the school does not incur an expense.
 - a. Typically, this includes expenses from the ski hill operator including lift ticket, lesson, and equipment fees.
 - b. Unless a decision is made to cancel the entire trip, students will not be reimbursed fees for their portion of the transportation/bus cost if they do not attend the trip unless that seat can be filled by another person.
4. In the event that the entire trip is cancelled three or more days prior to the scheduled trip day and no costs are incurred by the school, students will be issued a full refund.

Supervision of Students

1. There will be school for non-participating students. Students will be organized for the day dependent on the number of non-participants.
2. Teaching staff shall make provision for any students not attending a ski trip to attend school on the day of the trip.
3. Teaching staff will organize themselves to provide for supervision of students on the ski trip and at school proportionate to the participants/non-participants.
4. Teaching staff will provide the office with a list of students from their homeroom to identify which are participating in the trip, attending school, or have been parent excused from school on the day of the ski trip.

Inclement Weather Decision Making

1. Weather can be unpredictable, and the reality is that once a ski trip date is booked with a ski hill operator it is difficult to reschedule. If a trip is cancelled due to inclement weather, reasonable efforts will be made to reschedule the trip.
2. Forecast data from The Weather Network for the closest centre to the ski hill will be used three days prior to the ski trip date to determine if the trip will be cancelled. If the forecasted high/afternoon temperature for the ski trip date is at or below -30 degrees Celsius (including the wind chill factor - 'feels like') the trip will be cancelled.
3. Consistent with PSSD Policy 418 (Transportation), no school or charter bus will operate if 6:00AM temperatures for the local area are -40 degrees Celsius or colder.

Transportation of Students

1. Prairie Spirit School Division policy requires any person transporting a student (other than their own child) to have the following in place: 1. The volunteer driver is an approved school volunteer and has submitted a criminal record check (CRC) *and* Vulnerable Sector check (VSC) to the school office. You must have a letter from the school to request these checks from the RCMP. It is recommended that you apply for your CRC and VSC at least 3 weeks prior to the ski trip. 2. The volunteer driver has submitted vehicle and insurance information to the school office on the PSSD Volunteer Driver form. 3. The volunteer driver has explicit permission from the parent guardian of the child they are transporting. School staff do not have the authority to give permission for any parent to transport a child (other than their own) unless the three criteria have been met.
2. Each ski trip will make provision for one teacher to drive their vehicle as an Emergency Vehicle in the event of a medical situation where school staff may need to support an injured student. The school will reimburse the teacher for mileage according to PSSD rates.