

THE CREEK

INDIAN CREEK SCHOOLS

Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson United School Corporation

802 South Indian Creek Drive | Trafalgar, IN 46181

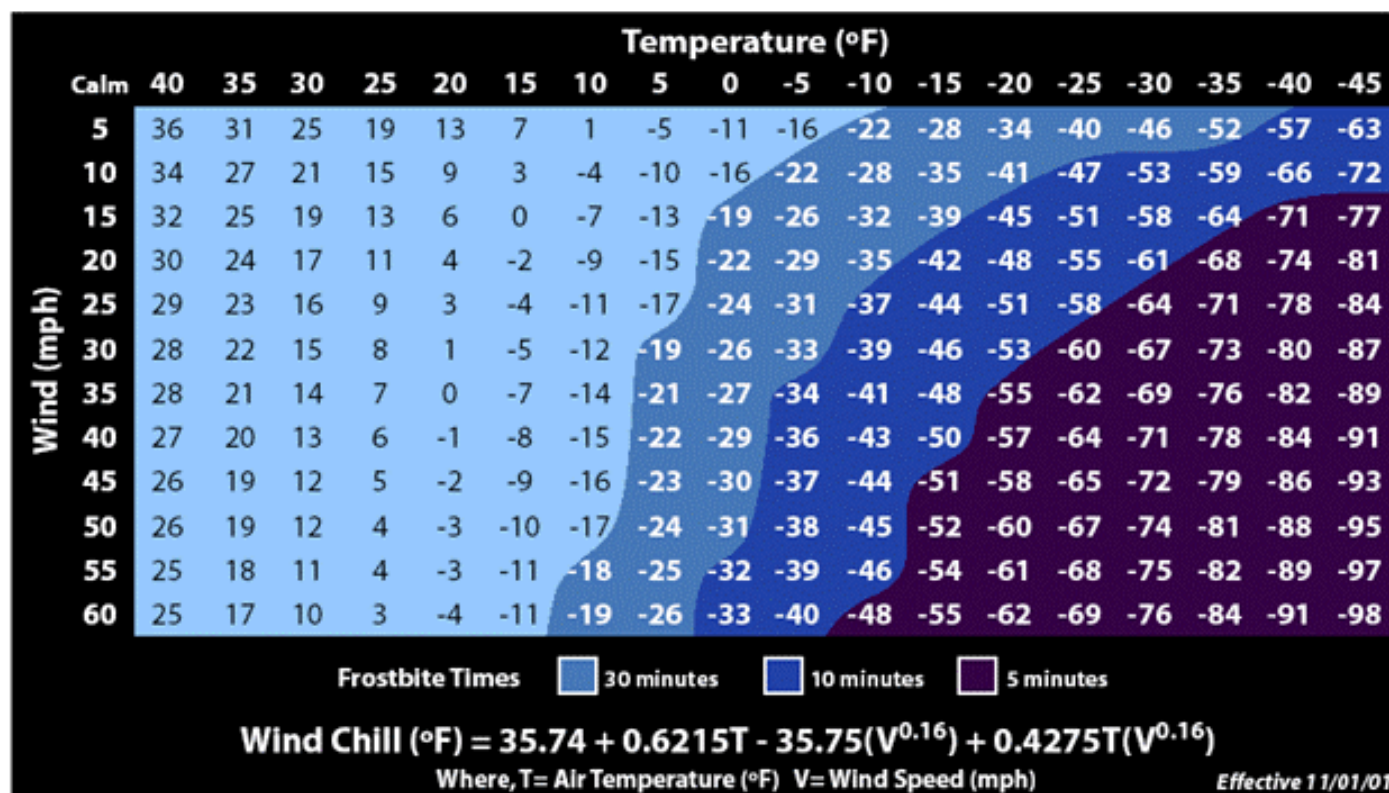
317-878-2100 (p) | 317-878-2109 (f) | www.indiancreekschools.com

Dear Indian Creek Families,

It is not every winter that we experience wind chill temperatures like we have this year, and we expect to see more extreme cold in the coming weeks. We want to provide families with information to better understand the process superintendents use to make decisions on delaying or closing schools due to cold temperatures. Superintendents base decisions, in part, on delaying school due to cold temperatures and wind chill with the chart provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (see below).



Wind Chill Chart



The typical temperature increase on bitterly cold days is between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m., so school is not often delayed due to cold temperatures. The concern for exposure leading to frostbite begins when the temperature and wind speeds move from the lightest blue into the next shade.

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When students come to school on bitterly cold days, we know they receive two hot meals and a warm classroom. **Parents always have the right to keep students home on inclement weather days**, but we encourage parents to bundle students up and bring them in if they do not want students waiting outside for the bus.

Another factor we must consider is the status of our buses. Cold temperatures can make it difficult for diesel buses to operate due to fuel gelling. When we expect cold temperatures, drivers must check that their buses start and run reliably.

Extreme Cold

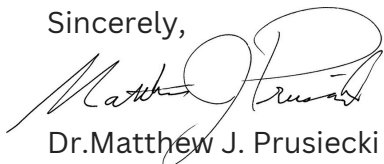
Temperature prediction is increasingly accurate. Indian Creek Schools uses NOAA's hourly temperature predictions for our zip code, along with a variety of meteorological resources. If NOAA predicts the air temperature to be -10°F or below (the starting point for wind chill concerns with calm wind), the district will **consider** a two-hour delay for the start of school. If the air temperature is predicted to remain at -10°F or below, the school will consider moving to eLearning. Such a determination will be made as early as possible, perhaps the evening before.

Extreme Wind Chill

Wind chill prediction is not as accurate as temperature prediction because wind speed is more variable by time and location. While NOAA observations and predictions are based upon the open conditions of the Indianapolis International Airport, local observations of wind speed will affect the decision regarding delaying or closing school. Wind chill concerns emerge at a predicted wind chill temperature of -19°F. If NOAA predicts the wind chill to be -19°F or below and local wind conditions are predicted to mirror the airport wind conditions at 6 a.m., the district will **consider** a two-hour delay for the start of school. If the wind chill is predicted to remain at -19°F or below and local conditions mirror the airport wind conditions at 7:30 a.m., the district will **consider** moving to eLearning. Clearly, wind chill will vary, as we are approximately 23 miles from the Indianapolis International Airport.

The safety of our students and staff remains our top priority at Indian Creek Schools. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Dr. Matthew J. Prusiecki

Superintendent

Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson United School Corporation