



NODAWAY-HOLT R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT



Mr. Mike Hollingsworth, Superintendent
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Quality Education Today For A Successful Tomorrow

January 23, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I know there are differing opinions about whether Nodaway-Holt should be in session today, and I respect that every family's situation is unique. As Superintendent, my responsibility is to consider the needs of all students and make decisions that prioritize their safety, well-being, and opportunity to learn.

While it is very cold outside, our buildings are warm, secure, and ready to welcome students. I chose to remain in session because the roads in our district are currently clear and safe for travel. That could change next week, as snow is expected this weekend, and we will continue to monitor conditions closely and respond as needed.

Our school offers more than just instruction—we provide a warm, caring, and supportive environment. Students are offered two hot meals each day, additional transportation was added to accommodate student needs, and all transportation is warm and supervised.

To support student safety:

- Yesterday, all students who normally walk to school were notified they could call for a ride in a warm school vehicle.
- I stayed in close communication with First Student Bus Company, who assured me that drivers warmed buses earlier than normal to ensure warm transportation from the first pickup. Buses are using winter-blend diesel rated to -20° (actual temperature, not wind chill).
- This morning, three school employees were stationed at the Maitland bus stops starting at 6:45 a.m. to give students a warm place to wait, remaining until 8:15 a.m. to ensure all students arrived safely.
- Entry doors at both buildings were unlocked at 7:05 a.m. so students did not have to wait outside.
- Any student whose family had not contacted the school was either called, or a school employee stopped at their home and personally offered warm transportation.

After school, warm transportation will again be available for students who usually walk, if requested. Please Note—staff will not be stationed at bus stops this afternoon since students will go directly home.

We will continue preparing for potential AMI (Alternative Methods of Instruction) days when weather is questionable. Being prepared does not mean an AMI day will occur—it simply ensures we are ready if conditions change.

As always, the decision for your child to attend school is entirely yours. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the district office.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership in keeping our students safe, supported, and learning.

Yours in Education,

Mike Hollingsworth
District Superintendent

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