Gulf Islands School District A Community of Learners

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 64

POLICY 3060 Emergency School Closure

"Inspire learners, Integrate sustainability, Involve community"

Section: Health and Safety

Dates of Revisions: April 10, 1991, December 1, 2004

Date of Adoption and

Resolution Number: June 13, 2018 -76/18

Rationale:

The School District No. 64 Board of Education may not close any school without the permission of the Minister of Education, except as ordered by the School Medical Officer appointed under the School Act or by reason of weather or other conditions that might endanger the health or safety of the students. The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to close a school, delay the opening time of a school, or dismiss a school early if deemed necessary.

The Board of Education recognises that, from time to time, it may be necessary to temporarily close one or more schools in response to an emergency situation. While the board understands that a decision to temporarily close one or more schools will impact students and their families, it knows their interests are best served where concern for student health, safety and well-being drives its decision-making.

Policy:

Schools shall be open on all days and at all times identified in the district's annual school calendar, except in emergency situations in which the health or safety of students is at risk. In situations where schools are temporarily closed, utmost care will be taken to ensure that;

- a. students are not dropped off and left unattended outside a temporarily closed school
- b. students attending on a day that a school is temporarily closed remain safe and secure, until they can be released into their parent/guardian's care, or the care of someone else identified by the parent for that purpose.

In the event of a temporary, unscheduled school closure, the school district will alert affected school communities by whatever means are possible under the circumstances, including, the district website, local media outlets; telephone 'trees' and email.

References:

- The School Act, s.73, 168 (2) (p) (t) and 96 (3)
 The School Opening and Closing Order M194/08