

Humphreys County School System

Emergency Tornado Watch/Warning Procedures

The Humphreys County School System takes the safety of our students, staff, and guests very seriously. We have worked hard to plan and practice our emergency tornado procedures so that we will be prepared to implement those procedures at a moment's notice.

We understand that the threat of severe weather causes fear and anxiety for parents when they are separated from their children. We hope that by taking a moment to explain our school system's policy to you, it will reassure you that your children are being protected to the greatest extent possible.

If Humphreys County is placed under a tornado **"watch,"** all schools will continue normal educational activities, but will be prepared to fully implement the emergency tornado procedures included in our district and school Emergency Operations Plans if and when we receive notification that the watch has been upgraded to a **"warning."** School and district administrators will be constantly monitoring the weather conditions using the NOAA weather radio system, as well as, notifications from Humphreys County 911.

When an active tornado **"warning"** is issued for any portion of Humphreys County, there may be a short window of time when parents may pick up their children and leave campus. This will be at the discretion of the school principal, given the most current weather information they have available to them. Once the school is in full shelter mode, it is essential for all staff to be fully focused on the safety of the students in their care. Parents who are on site wishing to pick up their children will be strongly advised to come into the school to seek shelter and wait for the tornado warning to expire and weather conditions to stabilize. This is for the safety of the children, the parents, and the school staff!

Humphreys County has seven schools spread out across the county. Weather conditions may vary greatly from one area of the district to another at any given time. Buses will not run, and student drivers, walkers, bike riders, and car riders will not be released to leave campus during an active tornado warning. The district and individual schools will use all means available to communicate to parents when buses will run and how delayed they may be.