



Moencopi Day School

P.O. Box 185 • Tuba City, Arizona 86045 • Phone: 928.283.5361 • Fax: 928.283.4662
Website: moencopidayschool.org

To: MDS families
Fr: CSA Designee
Re: Cold weather and School Recess

November 16, 2023

Dear parents,

**Our schools often receive questions about recess during cold weather. Our staff often ask:
When is it too cold for outdoor recess?**

Recess is critically important to the mental and physical well-being of children. Whenever possible, we seek to have students playing outside for recess as a break from classroom-based and other indoor activities. There are factors, such as wind and precipitation, that are always taken into account, *but the primary consideration is always the safety of our students.*

At MDS, the Principal will use the following general guidelines for decision-making related to recess:

- **Regular outdoor recess** will be held when outside air temperature and/or wind chill is 25° (F) or greater. The presence of rain or snowfall can influence this decision.
- **Indoor recess** will be held when outside air temperature and/or wind chill is lower than 25° (F). Indoor recess is always an option when a principal decides that steady rainfall, heavy snowfall, or high winds have created unsafe conditions.
- **Appropriate outdoor wear** is a heavier coat, beanie, and gloves. Your child can come in layers and if desirable he/she can remove layers while in their classroom.
- **Appropriate footwear** preferred is tennis shoes. Because of high physical activity at MDS we'll no longer allow "cros" as proper footwear. If your child comes to school with cros, you'll be contacted to provide a shoe replacement.
- **Whenever students are sent outside in cold temperatures, building staff watch for individual children who are not wearing appropriate clothing and may be at risk. If a child does not have access to clothing necessary for cold temps or snow, our schools are able to help! Just let us know by contacting the school nurse. 928-283-5361 ext. 1022.**

Good news! Our MDS royalty will host a coat drive very soon. If you'd like to participate you may contact our front office staff.

Thank you, CSA Designee.

SCHOOL BOARD: Doris Honanie, President • Justin Hongeva, Vice-President
Gina M. Chimerica, Member • Amy Borhauer, Member • Reuben F. Honahnie, Member

