

I WANT A COLD DAY

Students from Schaumburg High School have teamed up with the High School District 211 superintendent of schools to create a music video that can warm up anyone's day.



Set to the music of Backstreet Boys, a student-made music video aims to provide information about the District's severe cold weather guidelines. It describes conditions in which school would be canceled due to severe cold weather.

SHS senior Emma Robie and junior David Kessler performed vocals with District 211 Superintendent Dan Cates. Additional student actors included juniors Olivia Donofrio, Cameron Kidd, and senior Colin McGonagle. Senior Austin Anzelmo edited the final video and Science teacher Chad Elwell was the director. Senior Shannon Rees, sophomore Danny Monzon, senior Elliott Ross and the SHS Songwriting Club helped write the lyrics. Jeremy Slayton and the Schaumburg Township District Library assisted with the video production.

"I definitely think this video will be helpful because I know people who don't know what the policy is," David said. Emma added, "I know people thought it was just the temperature that determined whether we have a cold day or not, but it can also be a is a wind chill warning."



The Severe Cold Response Plan at District 211 states that schools will be closed under the condition of a wind chill warning. A wind chill warning is typically issued when the wind chill will be -30 degrees Fahrenheit or colder or the actual air temperature is -15 degrees Fahrenheit.

In the event of a wind chill advisory, which is issued when conditions do not meet the wind chill warning criteria but still cause significant inconvenience, is not grounds for school cancellation. District 211 does implement Severe Cold Action during a wind chill advisory, which is typically issued when the wind chill is -20 degrees Fahrenheit or colder.

To create the Severe Cold Weather Guidelines, District 211 consulted Paul Sirvatka, professor of meteorology, forecasting, weather analysis, climatology, atmospheric sciences, and severe and unusual weather at the College of DuPage. Additionally, Dr. Alexander Means, the chief resident from the University of Chicago's Department of Dermatology, was consulted.

Students said the best part about making the video, which took roughly four hours to record and film, was spending time with their friends and meeting the superintendent.

“The filming was a lot of fun and I really enjoyed meeting Dr. Cates,” Emma said. “He is a pretty cool guy.”