



Tom Barrett
Mayor

Bevan K. Baker, FACHE
Commissioner of Health

Administration

Frank P. Zeidler Municipal Building, 841 North Broadway, 3rd Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3653 phone (414) 286-3521 fax (414) 286-5990
web site: www.milwaukee.gov/health

For Immediate Release
January 14, 2009

Media Contact:

Kawanza Newson
414-286-3548 Office
414-732-7250 Mobile

Commissioner of Health Advises School Closure During Extreme Cold Weather in the Milwaukee Area

Bitterly cold temperatures coupled with strong winds are a major concern for all residents, but particularly for young children who quickly lose heat from their bodies when outdoors. For this reason, the City of Milwaukee Health Department is recommending school closure when wind chills are at or below 25 degrees below zero to protect our most vulnerable citizens from serious medical complications such as frostbite and hypothermia. If schools choose to remain open, the Health Department urges them to assure that doors are unlocked to allow children to immediately enter the building upon their arrival. We also encourage schools to forego all outdoor activities whenever wind chills are at or below 25 degrees below zero.