

Severe Weather Contingency Plan for CHESSIE

I. General

This Severe Weather Contingency Plan identifies protective actions to take in the event of impending or actual severe weather conditions.

- a. CHESSIE Staff shall manage the Severe Weather Contingency Plan.
- b. CHESSIE Staff will notify parents of any impending severe weather and find a safe designated assembly area in the event severe weather occurs.
- c. CHESSIE Staff will monitor weather conditions prior to and throughout the CHESSIE day.
- d. If severe weather is anticipated during the time frame of a scheduled CHESSIE day, CHESSIE staff has the right to to amend, postpone, or cancel CHESSIE that day.

II. Contingency Plan

The possibility of severe weather exists at any time, and has the potential to negatively impact CHESSIE days.

In the event of severe weather, the event will be immediately interrupted and the Severe Weather Contingency Plan will be activated.

A. Weather Forecast

The National Weather Service (www.weather.gov) will be the forecast source for CHESSIE planning. As conditions may change unexpectedly, the forecast will be checked daily leading up to Thursdays. If severe weather conditions are anticipated, the forecast will be reviewed to determine any impacts and the need for implementation of the Severe Weather Contingency Plan.

B. Procedures

- a. The following procedures will be used by CHESSIE Staff to monitor weather conditions:
 - watching radar and weather predictions, alerts, watches, and warnings
- b. In the event of severe weather, all CHESSIE students and staff will be relocated to indoor areas of the building: Fellowship hall and hallway area in the basement of the church; as well as foyer and sanctuary, depending on the severity of the weather, students and staff may remain on the front porch.

c. The procedure to implement a severe weather contingency plan will be followed as such:

- a. All staff, students, and parents moved to a safe and secure location.
- b. All parents notified via Facebook Group post, text message, phone call, and/or email
- c. Emergency contacts contacted if parent can not be reached
- d. Parents must return to pick up children within 30 minutes of being contacted.

d. Science Classes:

The goal to complete science classes will take precedence over sports and sibling care. CHESSIE staff reserves the right to determine what classes will be cancelled due to severe weather. If classes can continue for the rest of the day, they will do so in a safe place and all sports and sibling care students will need to be picked up from the CHESSIE campus ASAP.

C. Notification

- a. All emergencies will be reported to the Police by dialing 911.
- b. In the event of a Tornado Warning impacting the CHESSIE Campus, staff will seek proper shelter for students: indoors, away from windows; and will notify the parents.
- c. Parents will be notified of any changes or cancellations using the following methods:
 - Facebook Post on CHESSIE Group page
 - Text Alert
 - Email
 - Phone Call

Notification Alerts:

During a CHESSIE day - If severe weather occurs, CHESSIE Staff will make appropriate announcements to those on campus and to parents:

a. **Severe Thunderstorm Watch** - If a Severe Thunderstorm Watch is issued for the area, the following announcement will be made:

A Severe Thunderstorm Watch is in effect for Albamarle County. For your safety, CHESSIE is canceled/postponed until the severe weather threat has passed. Please watch the CHESSIE Facebook Page for information regarding pick-up / cancellations.

b. **Severe Thunderstorm Warning** - If a Severe Thunderstorm Warning is issued for the area, the following announcement will be made:

A Severe Thunderstorm Warning is in effect for Albamarle County. For your safety, CHESSIE is canceled/postponed until the severe weather threat has passed. Please watch the CHESSIE Facebook Page for information regarding pick-up / cancellations.

c. **Tornado Watch** - If a Tornado Watch is issued for the area, the following announcement will be made:

A Tornado Watch is in effect for Albamarle County. CHESSIE is canceled/postponed until further notice/until the Tornado Watch expires or is canceled by the National Weather Service. Please watch the CHESSIE Facebook Page for information regarding pick-up / cancellations.

d. **Tornado Warning** - If a Tornado Warning is issued for the area, the following announcement will be made:

A Tornado Warning is in effect for Albamarle County. Take cover indoors immediately. Do not go to your vehicle. Please watch the CHESSIE Facebook Page for information regarding pick-up / cancellations.

e. **Tornado Sighting/Touchdown** - If a Tornado has been sighted in the area, or if a touchdown has occurred, the following announcement will be made:

A Tornado has been sighted. All persons should take cover immediately inside the basement

of the church. Do not go to your vehicle. Please watch the CHESSIE Facebook Page for information regarding pick-up / cancellations.

f. **Other Severe Weather** - If other severe weather occurs, such as heavy rain, high winds, lightning, hail, etc... all activities will be interrupted immediately and the following announcement will be made:

CHESSIE is postponed until further notice. Please seek shelter /take cover as quickly as possible. Please watch the CHESSIE Facebook Page for information regarding pick-up / cancellations.