Severe Weather Response Plan

Severe Weather Definition: Winter Storms/blizzards, High Winds (microburst) or straight winds, Flooding, Severe Thunderstorms, or other.

Executive Group will convene in person or through electronic means and assess situation.

Criteria for school closure: (Questions to ask while considering University closure)
  o Weather forecast (current and next hour, 2 hours, 4 hours, and so on)
  o Number of calls through facilities (requests for action)
  o Type of calls through facilities (incidents that create an unsafe environment)
  o Public Safety Calls (number of weather related police calls)
  o Number of serious accidents (slips/falls, vehicle accidents, number of injuries requiring healthcare)
  o Ability to keep sidewalks/roadways clear (enough staff, equipment, supplies)

University Closure:
  o Notification: Use all appropriate means and methods of communication to alert the campus community of the decisions that have been made regarding closure and re-evaluation, and re-opening.
  o What needs to happen to safely get people off the campus? Is there anything the University can do to assist? (transportation, communications).
  o Who stays: What essential staff will still need to work?
    ▪ Grounds for clearing roadways and sidewalks
    ▪ Plant Operations to ensure HVAC systems are working
    ▪ Police Department to ensure safety and security for facilities and direct people away from campus while closed
    ▪ Other essential staff

Recovery: Time to reopen
  o Executive Group will convene in person or through electronic means and assess situation.
  o Notification: Use all appropriate means and methods of communication to alert the campus community of the decisions that have been made regarding re-opening.
  o What needs to happen in the physical environment before it is safe to reopen and stay open (utilities functioning, transportation available, physical infrastructure intact, clear roadways and sidewalks)
Severe Weather Response Plan