



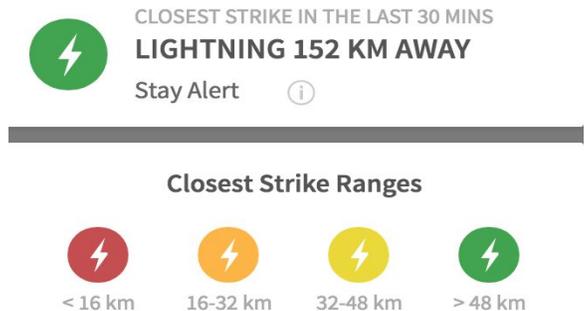
RIS Lightning Policy and Protocol

The goal of having a lightning policy at RIS is to keep students and staff safe whenever lightning is nearby. RIS uses the highly rated application WeatherBug, which gathers data from the world's largest network of professional weather stations to give accurate readings of the closest storm activity.

When the WeatherBug app detects lightning strikes nearby, it sends an alert. The app uses a 4-color light system to show how far away the lightning strikes have been detected. This allows RIS staff to make an informed decision about when to clear fields and other open areas on campus. It is important to note that while thunder can be heard from far away, it may not indicate that lightning is also in the vicinity. It can also be raining without a lightning threat.

The exposed campus areas, and therefore most at risk during lightning activity, include:

- Phoenix Field and Godbout Field
- Phoenix Pool and Godbout Pool
- School playgrounds and open thoroughfares



WeatherBug Alert Signals



Green Alert: no lightning detected within 30 miles (48 km)
No risk. No action necessary.



Yellow Alert: lightning has been detected 20–30 miles (32–48 km) away
Warning signal only. No risk, so no action necessary.



Orange Alert: lightning has been detected 10–20 miles (16–32 km) away
Warning signal. Storm activity is approaching. Prepare to send lightning notification.



Red Alert: lightning has been detected 0–10 miles (0–16 km) away
Lighting risk in the area. RIS Lightning Policy goes into effect:

- All students are out of the swimming pools and under cover
- No students/staff are on the fields or in any other at-risk areas
- During after-school activities, the Director of Athletics is notified

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RIS Lightning Protocol

During regular school hours and after-school activities—between 6:45 am and 5:00 pm—the WeatherBug app will be monitored by the Director of Athletics, the Aquatics Coordinator, and the Aquatics Lifeguard team.

When lightning has been detected in the area, RIS staff will implement the following procedure:

1. The Aquatics Coordinator immediately notifies the Director of Athletics and sectional administration of the lightning risk, via the Lightning Warning LINE group, and that at-risk areas need to be cleared.
2. The notice to clear the at-risk areas is immediately sent to PE staff and assistants, and the Head of Campus Security.
 - PE staff will be notified via the Lightning Warning LINE group.
 - PE support staff and grounds staff will be notified via walkie-talkie communication, initiated by the Lifeguard team.
3. The Aquatics Coordinator and Aquatics Lifeguard team will monitor the situation for updates.
4. Once the lightning is determined to be a safe distance away—more than 10 miles—and the risk is reduced (orange, yellow, or green display), an update will be sent to the Director of Athletics, section principals, and staff. Students and staff can then return to exposed areas on campus.
 - PE staff will be notified via the Lightning Warning LINE group.
 - PE support staff and grounds staff will be notified via walkie-talkie communication, initiated by the Lifeguard team.

During school sporting activities hosted at RIS on the weekends, the Director of Athletics or event staff member in charge will be responsible for ensuring that the RIS Lightning Protocol is followed and implemented accurately.