



TO: Students and Parents

FROM: Mary Beth Freeman, Superintendent

DATE: December 6, 2016

RE: Calamity days and hours

Winter is upon us and this means DACC may need to close or delay school because of inclement weather. For many years, schools were permitted five (5) calamity days with unlimited delays and dismissals. The five (5) day rule has been changed by legislation. High schools are now required to meet a minimum of 1001 instructional hours. Any school closings, delays and early dismissals would not count toward the 1001 hours. If your home district is operating under a collective bargaining agreement that was in place before July 1, 2014, they may still be operating under the previous 5-day rule.

DACC school closings and delays will be announced through our district's Honeywell all-call phone system which includes a phone call, email and text. Please be sure your information is up to date so that you will receive these notifications. Notices will also be communicated on Columbus TV stations and social media including the DACC Facebook page, webpage and Twitter. I will first post any delays and closings to my Twitter account. You may follow me at @DACCsupt. To read more about calamity days at DACC you may go to <http://www.delawareareacc.org/high-school/students-parents/school-delays-and-closings#.VIXIjdKrTGI> You may also update your Honeywell account through a link found on this webpage.

- Delay
 - When our home districts announce a two hour delay, DACC will most likely have a one hour delay. DACC's beginning time is already later than our home districts' and a one hour delay will give us a start time similar to your home district on those days when a delay is necessary. Students from our home districts will not be expected to be at DACC until the home school bus arrives at DACC.
- Early dismissal
 - Early dismissals will be based on decisions made by our home schools and may vary. For early dismissal information please follow your home district's communication plan. There may be occasions when DACC will need to dismiss early. This information will be communicated through the Honeywell System and social media.

If we use more hours than permitted for delays/closings, DACC has been approved to use up to three online portal days, sometimes referred to as blizzard bags. Students will complete work from home. You may read more about the online portal days at the link above. If DACC uses the three online days, any additional time lost will be made up at the end of the school year.

Hopefully this winter has minimum amounts of snow and is not as cold as last winter. No matter what it brings, we want you to be prepared should any school changes be necessary.