



TO: Students and Parents

FROM: Mary Beth Freeman, Superintendent

DATE: October 11th, 2019

RE: Calamity days and hours

Another school year has begun 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. As you are aware, the five (5) day rule was changed by legislation. High schools are now required to meet a minimum of 1001 instructional hours. All school closings, delays and early dismissals would not count toward meeting the 1001 hours.

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. Any delay or closing notification will first be posted to my Twitter account. You may follow me at @DACCsupt. To read more about calamity days at DACC you may go to [www.delawareareacc.org/high-school/students-parents/school-delays-and-closings](http://www.delawareareacc.org/high-school/students-parents/school-delays-and-closings).

You may also update your Honeywell account at [www.delawareareacc.org/high-school/students-parents/honeywell](http://www.delawareareacc.org/high-school/students-parents/honeywell).

- Delay
  - When our home districts announce a two hour delay, DACC may or may not delay. The delay may be one or two hours, depending on the conditions, so please listen carefully to the message. This decision is made after communication with our associate districts. DACC's beginning time is already later than our home districts' therefore; 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 associate districts will be expected to be at DACC at the same time the home school bus arrives at DACC.
- Early dismissal
  - Early dismissals will be based on decisions made by our associate 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 as described above.

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 during scheduled time off or at the end of the school year.

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