



**Huntingdon Area School District**  
2400 Cassady Avenue, Suite 2 · Huntingdon, PA 16652  
Phone: 814-643-4140

January 23, 2024

Dear Families and Guardians:

Winter weather can be very challenging for travel and the safety of students on district transportation. The district makes every effort to make decisions early in regards to the ability to hold school on schedule, but at times we must choose other scheduling options. A school district is currently required to have school for at least 180 days and provide 990 hours of instruction to secondary students and 900 hours of instruction to elementary students. The district can utilize several models of scheduling under the Department of Education rules for inclement weather maintaining the rules of attendance.

- A school could call for a 2 or 3 hour **delay** to allow time for weather to improve and crews to clear roadways to allow for travel to school. These days count toward the day count requirement, but only for the actual hours of instruction.
- A school could end the day early if an event was due to start during afternoon hours which we call an **early dismissal**. These days count toward the day count requirement, but only for the actual hours of instruction.
- A school can **cancel (traditional snow day)** for the day and make up the day at a later time in the year. These days count toward the day count requirement and for the hours of instruction when they are made up. A school can apply for **5 flexible instructional days** in which instruction can be provided virtually and/or through work assignments. The district does have approval to do so and must reapply every three years to keep this instructional model. For this reason, attendance through virtual learning and work completion is required of students.
- A school could call for a 2 or 3 hour delay to allow for time, but in the event of the storm or weather not improving could transition into a flexible instruction day. These days count toward the day and hours of instruction requirements. The learning schedule begins following the delay time period.

All school schedules models can be found on the district webpage at <https://huntsd.org/>.



Under the School tab, select your student's school. Next select Schedules

We hope this information assists you in understanding the various models as well as the pros and cons of each decision. Ultimately, when weather threatens the safety of children the goal will always be to err on the side of caution, make decisions as early as possible, and communicate clearly. We know schedule changes can be stressful and difficult for families, but in central Pennsylvania we will experience challenges and some years are more challenging than others.

Sincerely,

*Jennifer Mitchell*

Superintendent