

Caledonia Community Schools

www.calschools.org

Administrative Offices: 9753 Duncan Lake Ave., Caledonia, MI 49316 • Telephone (616) 891-8185 ~ Fax (616) 891-9253
DR. DEDRICK MARTIN, Superintendent ~ DARRELL KINGSBURY, Assistant Superintendent
JANEL SWITZER, Director of Curriculum ~ SARA DEVRIES, Finance Manager

Character ~ Curriculum ~ Climate ~ Community

January 15, 2019

Dear Caledonia Schools Community,

Given the slick roads and walkways on a day like today, driving and walking conditions to school/work is certainly not ideal, and many may understandably question the decision to move forward with school. With that in mind, I would like to take a quick minute to apprise everyone in our school community on some of the factors considered in weather related school delays or closures.

- District officials and staff are continually monitoring various weather related forecasts on television, radio and the internet for temperature, wind speeds, and various precipitation.
- We have various staff members checking road conditions as early as 4:00 a.m. as some busses and drivers are on the roads as early as 5:15 a.m.
- We also consult with surrounding school districts that touch our school borders about road conditions they are experiencing.

On any given day, our bus fleet safely transports nearly 3,000+ students to and from school. Since Caledonia Community Schools covers over 100 square miles of paved and unpaved roads, the actual road conditions on a day like today can sometimes vary greatly in different areas of our school community.

Unfortunately, the road conditions that developed late morning are significantly different from the road conditions that were observed this morning between 4:00 and 5:00 a.m. when the decision was made to move forward with the school day. This change created a challenging environment with regard to safe transportation after many of our busses were already in route. In situations such as today, we always encourage parents, student drivers and staff to exercise caution when going back and forth to work or school. Arriving safely is most important and as such, students will not be penalized for arriving late.

Since weather conditions have deteriorated as the morning moved along, the county-wide KCTC programs have canceled the 2nd and 3rd session programs, while the 1st session programs continued since the students were able to make it there safely. We have also decided to cancel the afternoon Early Childhood programming at Duncan Lake Early Childhood Center. We will continue to monitor road conditions and will notify you should there be any further cancellations.

We will release and bus students at normal times today. Please be patient as buses may be moving slower than normal if road conditions do not improve.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dedrick Martin
Superintendent
Caledonia Community Schools