



The Cheetah Pause ...

Delaware Community School Newsletter

Back-to-School 2023

A note from Dr. Stacy Dobbs, our principal

WELCOME BACK!

It is so wonderful to have our students back in the building! I am looking forward to another fantastic year of learning, growth and student leadership.

A special THANK YOU to our faculty and staff, who have been working tirelessly in preparation for the students' arrival.

TOGETHER, we embark on this exciting educational journey. As we do so, our students will continue to focus on the three "Bs" – Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible – as each is a crucial

component to our students' achievement.

Your involvement and support are vital to your child's academic journey. I not only look forward to seeing you at our Open House and Welcome Back Celebration on Thursday, Sept. 28 at 5 p.m., but also throughout the entire year at various PTA and school events.

At any time, please do not hesitate to call me at (518) 475-6750 or email me at sdobbs@albany.k12.ny.us.

Kind regards,
Stacy J. Dobbs, Ph.D.



SAVE THE DATES!

SEPTEMBER

- 21 Special Person Take Your Child to School Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- 25 No school, Yom Kippur
- 28 Welcome Back Celebration and Open House, 5 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 9 No school, Columbus/Indigenous People Day
- 26 Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-7 p.m.
- 27 No school for students, Parent-Teacher Conference Day

DROP-OFF & PICKUP PROCEDURES

The school day at Delaware Community School starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. (3 p.m. for pre-K). Students may enter school at 8:40 a.m. for breakfast in the cafeteria. **Please do not drop off** your child early. Students eating breakfast should arrive by 8:40 a.m., and students who do not eat breakfast should arrive by 9 a.m.

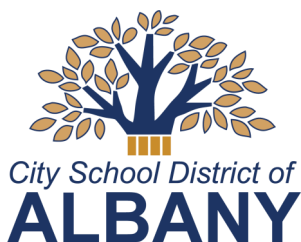
Student arrival

- **Pre-K and grades 2 and 3** should be dropped off at the Hurlbut Street side door
- **Grades 1 and 4** should be dropped off at the Bertha Street door
- **Grades K, 5, bus-riders and students eating breakfast** should be dropped off at the Hurlbut Street main entrance

Student dismissal (afternoon)

- **Pre-K students** should be picked up at the side door off Hurlbut Street at 3 p.m.
- **Kindergarten** students should be picked up at the Hurlbut Street cafeteria door
- **Grade 1** students should be picked up at the Hurlbut gym door
- **Grade 2** students should be picked up at the Bertha Street courtyard gate
- **Grade 3** students should be picked up at the Hurlbut Street side door
- **Grade 4** students should be picked up the Bertha Street door
- **Grade 5** students should be picked up at the Hurlbut Street main entrance

Please drop off and pick up your child on time each day. See more information on page 2 about attendance and the importance of getting your child to school on time, every day!



KEEPING UP WITH SCHOOL NEWS

At Delaware Community School, we communicate with families in many ways. One important way is through email. If we have an email address for you in our records, we can keep you informed about important events and activities that happen at school.

Parents and guardians automatically receive updates via email and phone call to the contact information on file in our student information database.

We can also send a text message to your cell phone BUT you need to give us permission. The easiest way to receive a text message from us is to simply text "Y" or "yes" to 67587 from a number that is on file in our

student database.

Please help us help you stay informed! If you have moved or your phone number or email changed, please call school so we can update our information database and keep you in the loop!

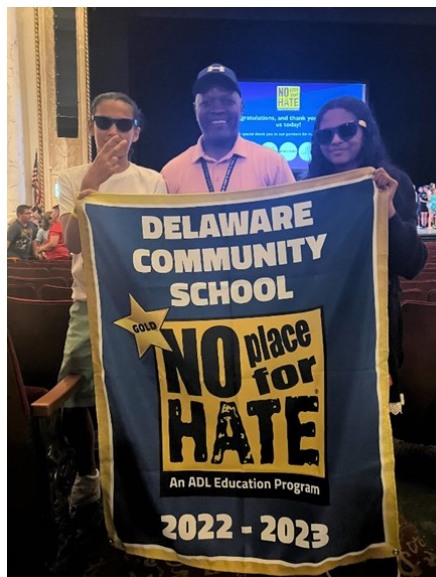
New this year: All teachers will have a ClassDojo account. Please be on the lookout for information about how to receive important communication from your child's teacher(s) as well as schoolwide and districtwide activities and reminders. ClassDojo can be accessed through your cell phone or on a desktop computer and is a free download.

Our school is 'No Place for Hate'

In the 2022-23 school year, Delaware Community School achieved a "No Place For Hate" designation and received a gold star ranking for going above the requirements for this Anti-Defamation League Program to create a learning community of inclusivity, respect and equity.

The student leadership coalition gained the signatures required and helped run the activities that helped achieve our status. The activities included learning about diversity, empathy, respect and other anti-bullying characteristic traits through lessons involving art, self-expression, poetry and incorporating our One Book, One School initiative.

We look to carry this on through the 2023-24 school and beyond!



A few words about school meals ...

All Delaware Community School students are eligible to receive both breakfast and lunch at school free of cost. Please make sure that the nurse and your child's teacher are aware if your child has any food allergies.



Look for Delaware Community School third-grader Killian Lee in the school calendar you'll receive in the mail!

Attendance matters!

Students benefit in many ways from being in school: in their academic and social-emotional growth, and in the supportive relationships they build with peers, teachers and staff members.

Attendance matters in a student's success starting as early as kindergarten. Missing even two days every month causes students to fall behind.

Students are expected to be in school every day unless they are sick, have a medical appointment or have a religious reason. If your student is absent, you must provide a written excuse for every absence or late arrival. The excuse must be signed and dated and reasons for the absence or lateness.

Being on time for school is part of having good attendance! Missing 5-10 minutes of class might not seem like much, but it adds up. Your child will be considered late if they arrive after 9:05 a.m. Help your child be successful and get them to school on time.

Delaware Community School is committed to working with you to help your student have great attendance! Please contact school if you need additional support regarding attendance.

Breakfast starts: 8:40 a.m.

Classes start: 9 a.m.

Pre-K students dismissed: 3 p.m.

All others dismissed: 3:30 p.m.

OUR SCHOOL DAY