

# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

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*Kerry J. Foderaro, Ed.D.*

Superintendent of Schools

[KFoderaro@CassD63.org](mailto:KFoderaro@CassD63.org)



Wednesday, June 24, 2020

## Re: Transitioning Back to School District - Developing Plans for 2020/21

Dear Cass School District 63 Families,

Now that we are well into summer, it is natural that you have many questions about the start of the 2020/21 school year. Will learning take place in person, remotely or through some combination of the two? If it is in person, what are the social distancing requirements? What about sanitizing? Will my child have to wear a mask? Will staff? If it is remote learning, what technology will be used? If it is a combination of the two, what will the schedule look like? What about buses? On top of these obvious questions, there are countless others and we have been working carefully on the answers to those questions.

Our District Leadership Team, including current Superintendent Kerry Foderaro and incoming Superintendent Mark Cross, along with our Principals, Assistant Principals and key staff members have been working together and developing comprehensive plans to recommend to the Board of Education for what the start of the school year will look like and the necessary precautions needed to ensure safety for students, staff and families. We had been eagerly waiting for authorities' additional direction and guidance and yesterday, Tuesday, June 23, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), issued their **Transition Guidance for Starting the 2020/21 School Year** under Phase 4 of the "Restore Illinois Plan." If you are interested, this attached 63-page document provides details on the guidance, even though the decisions and details are left to local school districts to decide.

This information was released to school districts at the same time as the general public, so we will be working through this document and developing plans now that we have concrete guidance to follow from the appropriate authorities. We ask for your patience as our team thoroughly reviews this detailed guidance and implements the suggestions into our District's planning. You might hear that different school districts are considering different things, but please keep in mind that every school and community is truly unique, from building spaces and sizes, enrollments, grade level arrangements, bus routes and so on. There is a significant amount to construct and each school district will develop their own unique plans to best meet the needs of their respective school district

### Concord Elementary School

Cass School District 63

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*Laura Anderson, Ed.D.*

School Principal & District Director of Teaching & Learning

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### Cass Junior High School

Cass School District 63

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School Principal & District Director of Technology

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in accordance with the ISBE and IDHP guidance. This is one of several reasons that the district will soon be releasing a survey to parents. Please watch for this, as your responses will be very helpful in our planning.

Last but not least, we fully understand that you want more information and to make plans for how this will impact your families. Our district intends to announce and communicate the details of what the opening of the 2020/21 school year will look like at Concord Elementary School and Cass Junior High School no later than mid-July. We think it is more important to be thorough and communicate accurately, rather than rush and be forced to make unforeseen changes.

We will continue to communicate with you in an ongoing manner as we approach the 2020/21 school year. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any specific questions or concerns and thank you for your support of our children and our schools.

Sincerely,

*Kerry J. Foderaro*

Kerry J. Foderaro  
Superintendent of Schools  
Until June 30

*Mark R. Cross*

Mark R. Cross  
Superintendent of Schools  
As of July 1

**[Transition Guidance for Starting the 2020/21 School Year](#)**