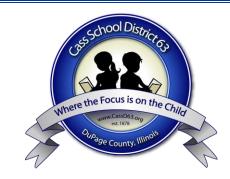
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333 331-481-4000 • Fax 331-481-4001 • mcross@cassd63.org



Superintendent of Schools



COVID-19 Low-Risk Exposure Notification

November 17, 2020

Dear Concord Elementary School Parents and Families,

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware that Cass School District 63 was notified that an individual at Concord Elementary School has tested positive for COVID-19. The individual was last in school on Wednesday, November 11 and did exhibit symptoms in the school setting. All health and safety procedures and protocols were enacted. The individual was tested and the positive test results were quickly and appropriately communicated to school district staff.

School district administrators immediately began investigating and collecting facts regarding the case, determining any "close contacts" per Illinois Department of Public Health guidance. As a result of that investigation, it was determined that there were no close contacts at school, but there were five potential close contacts on the school bus in this particular instance. All of the necessary individual contacts have been notified and the necessary information provided. Contact has also been made with the DuPage County Health Department.

This particular case is classified as a low-risk exposure, so please review the <u>Low-Risk Notification</u> from the DuPage County Health Department. The school district followed all necessary procedures and will continue to monitor the situation as we do with any cases or close contacts in the school setting. In addition to this information, the school district will continue to communicate with our parents and school community regarding this case in the event it is necessary to do so.

In addition to the daily self-certification that is provided to all parents via email, please also review the Illinois Department of Public Health COVID-19 Exclusion Guidance. Cass School District 63 will continue to follow all protocols outlined by the Illinois Department of Public Health when a student or staff member tests positive.

With the COVID-19 data in our community and area currently at an elevated level, this is an excellent reminder to follow the health and safety guidelines as a family and to continue to closely monitor everyone in your household for symptoms. Please continue to report any concerns immediately to school district staff so that we can take the necessary precautions.

Concord Elementary School

Cass School District 63

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Laura Anderson. Ed.D.

School Principal & District Director of Teaching & Learning

Cass Junior High School

Cass School District 63
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Mrs. Christine Marcinkewicz School Principal & District Director of Technology In the event it is necessary, we continue to ask that you voluntarily quarantine your children and keep them at home if there is any doubt. We also ask our parents and families to be mindful of any Thanksgiving holiday travel and mixing of extended family and friends. We want to make sure that you are safe, and we want to keep everyone safe here at school as well. If you choose to keep your kids at home after the Thanksgiving break next week, they will be able to return if you take a voluntary pause. We want your children at school when they are healthy, but we are providing robust remote instruction for when they need to be at home. We will also continue to be very vigilant regarding symptoms and close contacts here at school.

While we continue to maintain a high degree of success with our <u>School Reimagined Return to Learn Framework</u>, there is no question that our community and area faces many challenges as it relates to the spread of COVID-19. As a school district, we are working very hard to make certain that we do not have spread in the school setting, that we communicate openly and transparently with our staff, parents and community, and that we follow public health guidelines.

This is our third known case in the school setting. We have identified 11 close contacts that have manifested with any known cases in the school setting. Our relatively low numbers are a result of the proactive communication from our parents and staff, a blended framework that limits potential close contacts at school, the wearing of masks, the proper washing of hands and the never ending focus on keeping our staff and students healthy and safe at all times.

We will remain vigilant and continue to do whatever we can here to keep your children safe and we ask that you continue to help in any way that you can at home. Please reach out with any questions or concerns and as always, thank you for your support of our students, staff and schools.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Cross

Mark R. Cross Superintendent

MRC/glw