

# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

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*Kerry J. Foderaro, Ed.D.*

Superintendent of Schools

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Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Dear Cass School District 63 Families:

In addition to the Governor's closure of all schools in Illinois for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year, I am sure you have heard, he has also now extended the "stay at home" order until Saturday, May 30.

This most recent extension might require us to change our tentative end of the school year pick try to clearly process our end of the year procedures in a safe and orderly manner. If we change our current listed tentative end of the year pick up and drop off, we will let you know immediately.

The Governor also gave reference to the 2020/21 school year. To summarize, he stated to anticipate the possibility that the start of next school year could see a continuation of E-Learning/Remote Learning. Of course, it is way too early to determine what the 2020/21 school year will bring, but we will continue our efforts and suggest you do to, hoping for the best, but planning for the worst.

In regards to Grade Eight Graduation, you will find a letter from Principal Marcinkewicz in today's NoteTotes. Because we are not allowed to have any face-to-face events this school year, we have contracted with a third-party vendor to assist us in creating a virtual graduation. Many school districts are using third-party vendors for their graduations and as a result, these vendors are somewhat overwhelmed. This will probably not allow us to conduct the virtual graduation on the originally scheduled graduation date of Thursday, May 28. Instead, graduation will be more likely be scheduled for some time the first week of June. We will also look at the possibility, in late summer, to conduct a face-to-face encore graduation if permissible. Again, we truly appreciate your patience, flexibility and understanding as we navigate through this very unique and unprecedented time.

Just a reminder that our district is offering bag lunches to any and all students on school days at no charge. By either bus drop offs between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. or pick up at Cass Junior High School between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Please review the attached school schedule for specific dates and times.

Last week I received several questions regarding the District's school fees. We are fully aware that this is a very stressful and challenging time, especially financially for many school families. To try to assist, we have waived tuition for Prekindergarten students who participate in the tuition program. We have

## Concord Elementary School

Cass School District 63

1019 Concord Place • Darien, Illinois 60561-5124

331/481-4010 • Fax 331/481-4011

*Laura Anderson, Ed.D.*

School Principal & District Director of Teaching & Learning

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

## Cass Junior High School

Cass School District 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

331/481-4020 • Fax 331/481-4021

*Mrs. Christine Marcinkewicz*

School Principal & District Director of Technology

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also refunded \$169 to all families who had a student scheduled to attend the Washington, D.C. trip, which is the fee the travel agent charged each family when returning their payments. We have been providing lunches, as referenced in the paragraph above to hopefully ease some financial burden to families. Finally, we have also pushed back the due date for next year's registration fees, in order to ensure you get this year's fee rate from Tuesday, June 2 to Tuesday, June 30.

It has been brought to our attention that a school district has waived their fees for the 2020/21 school year. This is one of two school districts that we are aware that has taken this type of action. I was asked if we would do the same and waive fees for next school year. I am sorry to share, no, there are no plans to waive school fees for next school year. Our school fees cover partial costs of our one-on-one technology devices, consumable instructional materials and textbooks. However, in addition to extending the deadline for payment of school fees, the District will, as like in the past, offer interest-free payment plans for families that justify a need for this type of support, as well as waive or reduce fees for those students that qualify for free or reduced lunches based on federal standards.

I shared that each school district is unique and has their own financial profile. Some school district communities have supported multiple referenda over the years. These passed referenda have allowed these school districts to enhance their facilities, add to their staffing and grow their district's fund balance.

The last time Cass School District 63 passed a referendum was in the late 1980s; over 30 years ago. We significantly failed two referenda attempts in 2006 and 2007. We are a community school district and the community determines the extent of local community funding and as a school district, we need to fully respect and accept the community's wishes.

After the District's last two failed referendum attempts, the feedback from the community was to have school families pay a greater level of school fees, such as a user's fee, as they are the ones utilizing the District. The Administration at that time recommended to the Board of Education to significantly raise school fees. The Board of Education thoroughly and carefully debated this recommendation and eventually supported it with the reasoning that in order to continue the level of quality educational services the school families came to expect, a revenue stream from users was the only viable option.

Again, each school district is financially unique and we are extremely proud that Cass School District 63 is one of the many quality school districts in the County.

Finally, please remember to let us know if we can assist your family directly or by recommending local resources during this "stay at home" and "school closure" period.

Take good care,

*Kerry J. Foderaro*

Kerry J. Foderaro  
Superintendent of Schools

KJF/glw

Tentative Calendar as of Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Thursday, April 30	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Friday, May 1	<b>Staff Planning Day – No E-Learning/Remote Learning</b> 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Monday, May 4	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Tuesday, May 5	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Wednesday, May 6	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Thursday, May 7	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Friday, May 8	<b>Staff Planning Day – No E-Learning/Remote Learning</b> 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Monday, May 11	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Tuesday, May 12	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Wednesday, May 13	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School
Thursday, May 14	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School

Friday, May 15	<p><b>Staff Planning Day – No E-Learning/Remote Learning</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p>
Monday, May 18	<p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p>
Tuesday, May 19	<p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p>
Wednesday, May 20	<p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p>
Thursday, May 21	<p><b>Last Day of Attendance for Prekindergarten Students</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p> <p><b>Prekindergarten End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8-9 a.m. Last Names A-L</li> <li>• 9-10 a.m. Last Names M-S</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names T-Z</li> </ul>
Friday, May 22	<p><b>Staff Planning Day – No E-Learning/Remote Learning</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p>
Monday, May 25	<p><b>MEMORIAL DAY – No E-Learning/Remote Learning</b></p> <p><b>No Lunch Bus Delivery</b></p> <p>11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School sponsored by <b>CASS Resources for Education (CARE)</b></p>
Tuesday, May 26	<p><b>Cass Junior High School Recognition Night (TBD)</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p>
Wednesday, May 27	<p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Lunch Bus Delivery 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. E-Learning / Remote Learning 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</p> <p><b>Grade Four End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Concord Elementary School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m. Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names T-Z</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m. Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m. Last Names M-P</li> </ul>

<p>Thursday, May 28</p>	<p><b>Last Day of Attendance for Eighth Grade Students</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.    <b>Lunch Bus Delivery</b>  8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    <b>E-Learning / Remote Learning</b>  11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.    <b>Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <p><b>Grade Three End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Concord Elementary School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m.    Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names T-Z</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m.    Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m.     Last Names M-P</li> </ul> <p><b>Grade Eight End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m.    Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names M-P</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m.    Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m.     Last Names T-Z</li> </ul>
<p>Friday, May 29</p>	<p><b>Staff Planning Day – No E-Learning/Remote Learning</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.    <b>Lunch Bus Delivery</b>  11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.    <b>Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <p><b>Grade Two End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Concord Elementary School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m.    Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names T-Z</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m.    Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m.     Last Names M-P</li> </ul> <p><b>Grade Seven End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m.    Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names M-P</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m.    Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m.     Last Names T-Z</li> </ul>
<p>Monday, June 1</p>	<p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.    <b>Lunch Bus Delivery</b>  8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.    <b>E-Learning / Remote Learning</b>  11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.    <b>Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <p><b>Grade One End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Concord Elementary School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m.    Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names T-Z</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m.    Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m.     Last Names M-P</li> </ul>

<p>Monday, June 1 <i>(continued)</i></p>	<p><b>Grade Six End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names M-P</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m. Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m. Last Names T-Z</li> </ul>
<p>Tuesday, June 2</p>	<p><b>Last Day of School</b></p> <p><b>Eighth Grade Graduation (TBD)</b></p> <p><b>Fourth Grade Clap-Out (TBD)</b></p> <p>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. <b>Lunch Bus Delivery</b></p> <p>8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. <b>E-Learning / Remote Learning</b></p> <p>11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. <b>Lunch Pick Up at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <p><b>Kindergarten End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Concord Elementary School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m. Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names T-Z</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m. Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m. Last Names M-P</li> </ul> <p><b>Grade Five End of the Year Drop-Off/Pick-Up Day at Cass Junior High School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9-10 a.m. Last Names A-F</li> <li>• 10-11 a.m. Last Names G-L</li> <li>• 11-12 p.m. Last Names M-P</li> <li>• 12-1 p.m. Last Names Q-S</li> <li>• 1-2 p.m. Last Names T-Z</li> </ul>