While comprising the information for this communication, we received notice that a family member of one of our staff members at Raft River Elementary has contracted COVID-19. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Dr. Shank has directed a lock down of both schools until proper sanitization can take place. The affected employee has been placed on a 14-day isolation. We will continue to monitor employee related scenarios.

The following official parent/public communication is provided to clarify aspects of school operations.

The Cassia Board met Thursday to get a status update for students and employees. Here are the things to know prior to Monday.

1. Students will not be at school, Monday and through April 20, per the Governor’s stay at home order and State Board of Ed’s soft closure directive. Employees have had direct communication from central administration.

2. The District Office will remain open, during the soft closure, but from a front-door-closed-call-in for entry. Central office staff will be paired down and adhere to social distancing requirements.

3. If you didn’t check out a chromebook for your child, you still can get one at most schools. Please call the school first to set a time to come and pick one up.

4. The Board did not make any decisions about graduation, prom, or other end of year events.

5. Students in tech classes will take skills test when all students return to school.

6. For learners receiving Special Education services through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), case managers and related service providers will be in direct communication with families on a case-by-case basis. Look forward to being contacted in person to discuss your student’s individualized options available through Special Services.

7. With the unexpected closure, there is a need for administrators to meet, coordinate and confer about the next three weeks. Dr. Shank said it best. “The amount of work before us is tremendous.” This meeting will take place Monday.

8. Parents can expect communication from their principal, teachers and where necessary program directors.

9. As a point of information, the Board of Trustees has met four times since the initial soft closure on March 16th to address the impact of the virus on our educational community. They will continue to be proactive as they monitor and manage this unprecedented event. Again, from Dr. Shank, “our continued message to the community is one of great concern for health and welfare of everyone.”

10. In the event we are notified by district health that an employee or family member living with an employee has a confirmed case of COVID-19, we will adhere to all public health requirements associated with the virus.

   This will include district actions:
   1- Lockdown of the school
   2- Comprehensive sanitizing
   3- 14 day self-isolation of employee or impacted family members
   4- In conjunction with the health dept, we will assist efforts to retrace any persons that may have been in contact with the individual(s) to advise them of the situation.

We know there are many questions. Please email webmaster@cassiaschools.org