



Memorandum

To: Principals and Directors

From: Mr. Kyle Dresback, Associate Superintendent for Student Support Services

Date: August 14, 2017

RE: Solar Eclipse

On August 21, 2017, there will be a Solar Eclipse, which in our area will reach 90% partial eclipse of the sun. The solar eclipse will begin at approximately 1:16 pm. Maximum amount of sun coverage will occur at approximately 2:47 pm, which is during the Elementary school dismissal time.

Even during a partial eclipse, there are safety concerns for all students and staff. It is important that safety guidelines be carefully followed. Please educate your students and staff about the importance of following safety precautions provided below:

- Do not look directly into the sun during the solar eclipse, as it could be harmful to your vision.
- Do not look into the sun without proper eye protection.
- Do not look at the sun through a telescope or binoculars.
- Do not look at the sun through sunglasses, smoked glasses, or welder's glasses.
- Do not look at the sun through a camera/smart phone.

The only safe method to view the solar eclipse is by using special-purpose solar filters, such as eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewers. Homemade filters and ordinary sunglasses are not safe for looking at the sun during the eclipse. To date, four manufacturers have certified solar glasses and handheld solar viewers that meet the ISO 12312-2 international standard for such products: Rainbow Symphony, American Paper Optics, Thousand Oaks Optical, and TSE 17.

Below is the link to the Department of Health provided website for additional information including recommendations for safe viewing of the eclipse.

http://www.eclipse2017.org/eclipse2017_main.htm

Normal dismissal procedures will be followed for that day. If parents are concerned and decide to keep their child home, we will treat it as we do with other inclement weather situations and count it as an excused absence. If parents are concerned and decide to check out their child early, we would also count it as an excused absence. This should happen within your normal checkout times/procedures. Please reiterate your checkout times/procedures with your parents prior to August 21st.

Under separate cover, Ms. Marna Fox and Mr. Brian Morgan provided curriculum ideas and processes you may consider utilizing with your teachers.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do to help/assist you.