



Dr. Dana Kriznar
Superintendent

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Safety Advisory for Parents

On the afternoon of Monday, April 8, 2024, a partial solar eclipse will occur. A partial eclipse is when the moon moves between the Earth and the sun. The partial solar eclipse will begin at 1:47 p.m. and last until 4:19 p.m., with a maximum coverage being reached at 3:04 p.m. Information on the solar eclipse for Jacksonville can be found here: <https://eclipse2024.org/eclipse-cities/city/9651.html> .

Observing the sun can be dangerous to the eyes if proper precautions are not taken.

To minimize the likelihood that students will look directly at the sun and risk damaging their eyes:

- **ALL outdoor activities between the hours of 1:00 and 4:30 p.m.** (i.e., physical education classes, recess, athletic practice, band practice, aftercare program, etc.) **at ALL schools will be moved indoors.** Outdoor activities can resume after 4:30p.m.
- Before Monday, April 8, 2024, we ask **ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS to speak with their student(s) about the eclipse**, the dangers of looking directly at the sun, and the potential damage this can cause to their eyes.

We are also asking parents to use an abundance of caution while driving during the time of the eclipse and to be especially careful in the parent pickup area at school. There should be a heightened awareness to avoid distracted drivers, students, and pedestrians. Regular dismissal will not be affected.

Here is a link to a Scientific American informational article “Science Says Why We Can’t Look at the Sun” by Rachael Rettner (Copyright 2017 *Live Science*) on the risks of looking directly at the sun (<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/science-says-why-we-cant-look-at-the-sun/>). For more eclipse safety information, visit NASA at <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/safety/>.

If you decide to keep your student at home, the absence will be excused. You may also check your student out of school before the eclipse begins.

Thank you for your support. If you have questions, please contact your student’s school.

If you have special requests for pickup, please check your choice below for an alternate dismissal.

Parent Request for Dismissal, April 8, 2024

Student’s Name: _____ Student Number: _____ Grade: _____

_____ Option 1: I will pick my student up early. Time: _____

_____ Option 2: Please hold my student. I will pick my child up before 5:00 pm.

_____ Option 3: I will keep my student at home. I understand this will be an excused absence.

Parent Signature: _____ Contact Number: _____