

a culture of excellence

Dear NPUSC Families,

This letter is intended to communicate NPUSC decisions surrounding April 8th, 2024, and our first student day after Spring Break in light of the total solar eclipse that will occur.

NPUSC has decided it is in the best interests of our families and the educational process to proceed with school as planned with an instructional day in person. Just as we return from Spring Break, on **Monday, April 8th**, the path of a solar eclipse in the NPUSC area will experience 96% totality at 2:08 pm, with the partial eclipse phase starting at 12:52 pm and lasting until 3:23 pm.

We do understand the educational opportunities and concerns that are a part of a total eclipse situation. All NPUSC elementary students will be given protective eyeglasses to wear and will participate in appropriate learning activities around the event. NPUSC secondary students will be advised of proper safety protocols with the event and will participate in a typical school day. Some secondary level science courses have planned eclipse viewing activities, connected to curriculum, with proper eyewear.

NPUSC acknowledges some will want their students to engage in a deeper experience around the eclipse. We also acknowledge some families will be concerned about safety during this day. Any family may contact their school if they choose to keep their student(s) home as an excused absence or to view the eclipse with family.

While this is an amazing educational opportunity, there are also potential risks. Viewing of the eclipse without proper eye protection can cause permanent damage to vision; regular sunglasses do NOT provide adequate protection.

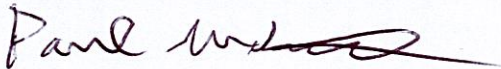
All NPUSC schools will take the following precautions on Monday, April 8th.

- Students and staff will not go outdoors from 12:45 p.m. to the end of the school day, unless it is part of a pre-planned, supervised activity with protective eyewear led by our staff
- Because the final stages of the eclipse occur during and after dismissal, we will remind all students and staff in an end-of-day announcement about the potential eye damage that could result from looking at the sun, even with sunglasses. Protective eyewear is to be used for any eclipse viewing
- Middle and High School students will be dismissed 5 minutes later than normal due to the eclipse. It's hoped this will help avoid traffic concerns in the area that may occur during totality at 2:08 pm
- Any after-school practices or activities will take place inside until after 3:30pm

For more information – including a number of educational resources and activities – please visit the following link:

www.in.gov/dhs/solar-eclipse-2024/

Sincerely,



Paul White

NPUSC Superintendent

Dr. Paul White, Superintendent
P: 574-654-7273
219-778-2814
F: 574-654-7274

5327 N Cougar Rd
New Carlisle, IN 46552