



# Memo

TO: Laurel Community  
CC:  
FROM: Leonard A. Rich  
DATE: 03/21/2024  
RE: Eclipse Safety

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On April 8, 2024, the Laurel School District will truncate the school day in order to accommodate the timing of the eclipse. The middle/high school students will be dismissed at 1:25 p.m. The elementary students will be dismissed at 2:10 p.m.

Some of our physics students are going on a field trip to the Erie area for a better view. Upon return, those students will be responsible for their own transportation.

Employees will be dismissed at the end of their contractual day.

After school activities will be postponed until 5:00. We have a softball game, baseball game and track & field practice.

Primetime for viewing the eclipse is projected to be approximately between 3:00-4:00 p.m. The truncated school day should largely be unaffected by the eclipse.

The district has done research on viewing the eclipse. Except during the brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the moon completely blocks the sun's bright face, it is not safe to look directly at the sun without specialized eye protection for solar viewing. The district is providing the following information and recommendations to our families regarding the purchase and use of eclipse glasses:

1. Purchase appropriate eclipse glasses for your children that have the ISO approved number, ISO 12312-2.



# Laurel School District

*"Come back with your shield or on it!"*

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2. Supervise young children- make sure they put the glasses on prior to looking at the eclipse.
3. Make sure the eclipse glasses are not damaged.
4. Ensure the glasses are tight fitting.
5. Do not look at the sun through an unfiltered telescope or binoculars.
6. Discuss with your children how important these steps are to ensuring their eye health. If they take their eclipse glasses off at any time, they run the risk of causing permanent and lifelong vision loss.

<https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/safety/>

<https://blog.cincinnatichildrens.org/safety-and-prevention/viewing-the-solar-eclipse-how-kids-can-do-it-safely/>

<https://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/SolarEclipse/Pages/default.aspx>