

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Monday, August 21, a solar eclipse will cross the United States with partial visibility in Arizona with its peak at 10:33 a.m.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) states that at no time during the eclipse should a person look directly at the sun. Exposure of the retina to intense visible light causes damage to the eye's light-sensitive rod and cone cells. The result is a loss of visual function that may be either temporary or permanent, depending on the severity of the damage. The risk to vision is significant because the associated injuries occur without any feeling of pain, and the visual effects do not occur for at least several hours after the damage is done.

For the safety of all students, all WESD schools will be on a mandatory rainy day schedule Monday, August 21. Recess and other outdoor activities will be canceled from 9:15 a.m. to noon to ensure the safety of our students.

We understand that this is an exciting and educational experience. If students and staff plan on viewing the eclipse, we are recommending that teachers use the NASA livestream, <https://www.nasa.gov/eclipselive>.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Sue Brown  
Principal