



# EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS SOLAR ECLIPSE GUIDANCE

On **Monday, April 8, 2024, a solar eclipse** will occur in East Lansing. The eclipse will **begin around 1:56 p.m.**, totality (96%) is expected by 3:15 p.m. and the eclipse will be **over by 4:25 p.m.** This is an exciting astronomical event and we are taking many steps to prepare our students and community for the safety of this occurrence.

## Protective Eyewear (District Provided)

All students will be provided with ISO certified glasses, with an expectation to wear them at dismissal. Classroom and school-wide reminders to wear the glasses will be made.

**Please discuss with your student** the importance of wearing these glasses. Remind them that the only safe way to look directly at the sun during an eclipse is through the specialized glasses given to them by the district. More safety tips can be found on [NASA's Solar Eclipse Safety Sheet \(Multilingual\)](#).

## Recess and Outdoor Activities

There will be no outdoor recess after 1:30 p.m. to ensure student safety. Athletic practices and other school-sponsored outdoor activities will be suspended until after 4:30 p.m.

## Classroom Safety Measures

Exterior classroom windows will be covered or darkened to prevent accidental viewing of the eclipse.

## Viewing Experience (Opt-Out)

Some classroom teachers in grades 3 and up may be participating in a class viewing experience, with an opt-out option for families.

## Early Pick Up

If you prefer not to have your student walk home or take the bus after school, you may pick students up early. Please do so before 3:00 p.m. to avoid traffic congestion.

East Lansing Public Schools honors the cultural significance this eclipse holds for indigenous communities. In Navajo (Dine) traditions, the solar eclipse is often seen as a renewal of the sun and holds great spiritual importance. Please trust that we will be mindful and respectful of the various perspectives that your students may bring to the event and we will create space for them to experience it in alignment with their beliefs.

Ensuring the safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. Thank you for your trust and cooperation during this memorable event. If you have any further questions, please contact Superintendent Dori Leyko at [dori.leyko@elps.us](mailto:dori.leyko@elps.us).