August 17, 2017

Dear Principals,

A historic solar eclipse will be visible across North America on Monday, August 21. In Los Angeles, a partial eclipse will be visible from approximately 9 a.m. until noon. While a solar eclipse can be a phenomenal viewing experience, it can also cause permanent eye damage unless special eyewear is used.

To ensure the safety of all students and staff, L.A. Unified is implementing a special schedule around the solar eclipse:

- If your school has planned a viewing event, students must wear protective eclipse eyewear that meets NASA-approved specifications.
  - In addition, the attached waiver must be sent home and signed by a parent or guardian in order for students to participate.
- We recommend that students who are not participating in an approved activity remain indoors from 9 a.m. to noon. In cases where a student must leave a classroom (i.e., parent check out), we recommend a staff member accompany students while outdoors.
- At your discretion, classes held in bungalows or without ready access to restrooms may be relocated during this time to spaces with available restrooms such as the auditorium, cafeteria, or gym. Students should be relocated prior to the start of the eclipse.
- Please ensure that all employees at your school are aware of the eclipse, the special schedule, and the warning not to view the eclipse without approved eyewear. Notification should include faculty, office and cafeteria staff, building and grounds workers and any support staff who visit school sites.
- Please review the Safety Tips outlined in the Safety Alert that was distributed by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety earlier this month.
- We are also providing instructional resources on the front page of lausd.net, where the District will also live-stream the eclipse.

We have attached a letter to parents about this special schedule, and ask that you send it home with your students on Friday. In addition, all L.A. Unified families and employees will receive a message about this via a Connect Ed call on Sunday evening.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this effort to ensure the safety of all students and employees.

If you have questions, please call your Local District Operations Coordinator.

Attachments (3)

Sincerely,

Darnika Watson-Davis, Ph.D., Executive Director
Division of District Operations

c: Members, Board of Education      Dr. Michelle King      LD Superintendents      Senior Leadership