



Delivering Extraordinary Value to Families

Steel Valley School District

District Administrative Offices

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Bryan M. Macuga
Superintendent

March 20, 2024

Dear Steel Valley Students, Staff, and Families:

Please note that Steel Valley School District will be making the following change to our District calendar:

Early Dismissal April 9, 2024 is **RESCHEDULED to April 8, 2024**
(April 9 will now be a full day of school)

This shift is due to the solar eclipse that will happen on April 8, 2024 and will overlap with usual school dismissal times (the eclipse is expected to start at 2:00pm and continue through 3:18pm).

In an effort to ensure students have the opportunity to observe this rare and historic event safely, we want to ensure students are not in the midst of dismissal, when District staff do not have the ability to monitor safe viewing of the eclipse. It is important to note that viewing the eclipse without taking proper precautions can lead to significant eye injury.

To safely view a solar eclipse, you will need special eclipse glasses. Those extra-dark shades block out almost all light, allowing you to look directly at the sky without damaging your retinas. Usually, when you look at the sun in the sky, the bright light damages the retinas in the back of your eyes.

Here are some tips to view the solar eclipse safely, borrowed from [NASA](#):

- 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.
- You must look through safe solar viewing glasses - Eclipse glasses are NOT regular sunglasses; regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for viewing the Sun.
- Always inspect your eclipse glasses or handheld viewer before use; if torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged, discard the eclipse glasses.
- Do NOT look at the Sun through a camera lens, telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while wearing eclipse glasses.

Sincerely,

Bryan M. Macuga
Superintendent