

Solar Eclipse Viewing Information

Fort Zumwalt School District



August 21, 2017

On August 21, 2017, (our first Monday of the school year), the Fort Zumwalt School District will be in the path of a solar eclipse. This event is being called “The Great American Solar Eclipse,” because it is the first time since 1442 a total solar eclipse has cut across the continental US. St. Charles is one of the few counties in the region that is in the path of totality.

Planning has been underway to ensure that our students can experience this once-in-a-lifetime event. The district has purchased eclipse-safe viewing glasses for all students and staff. Safety is our number one priority. We will take precautionary measures to make this experience safe and enjoyable. All students and staff will view an eclipse safety video and receive direct instruction from classroom teachers on proper use of the safety glasses. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the sun. Students will only be allowed to use district provided ISO safety approved glasses. For more information regarding the safety certification of the special viewing glasses, please visit www.eclipseglasses.com/pages/safety.

Students will receive the following instructions:

1. Because students will not be able to walk safely wearing the eclipse glasses, they will be instructed to walk to their viewing location without looking at the sky.
2. Students will be instructed to turn their back to the sun, bend over, and then put on their glasses.
3. Students will turn around to view the eclipse.
4. When students finish viewing, they will turn around with their glasses on.
5. Students will bend over with their backs to the sky and take off their glasses
6. Students will walk back into the building without looking at the sky.

Students will also be required to sign a Student Safety Contract prior to August 21, 2017. A copy of this contract is attached for parents to view.

*****Because of these safety concerns, parents are able to opt their student out of this activity. Please contact your student’s school if you would like to opt your student out.*****

Student Safety Contract

Fort Zumwalt School District

Eclipse Safety Procedures:

1. Because you will not be able to walk safely wearing the eclipse glasses, you will need to walk to your viewing location without looking at the sky.
2. Turn your back to the sun, bend over, and then put on your glasses.
3. Turn around to view the eclipse.
4. When you are finished viewing, turn around with your glasses on.
5. Bend over with your back to the sky and take off your glasses.
6. Walk back into the building without looking up at the sky.

Students should initial the following:

_____ I will abide by Fort Zumwalt's Student Code of Conduct, the school's rules and regulations, as well as safety information covered by my teacher.

_____ I have been informed by my teacher that if safety viewing glasses are not worn properly, my eyes could be seriously damaged.

_____ I understand the correct procedures to use my eclipse glasses.

_____ I understand that not following or taking seriously the approved safety procedures could result in not being allowed to participate in this activity.

Student's Signature

Date

Student's Printed Name