



CARROLLTON EXEMPTED  
VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Carrollton Exempted Village School Family:

On April 8th, we will experience a full solar eclipse in Ohio for the first time since 1806. The teacher in me wants to make an educational experience for our students on this date; however, there are safety factors that have led me to make the decision to close school. Given the hardship that closing school causes our families, I wanted to take a moment to share with you some of the factors that led to this decision.

- Full solar eclipses are rare and draw many spectators. Ohio's last full eclipse was in 1806 and we will not have another until 2444! In fact, the next full eclipse that will be seen in North America will not be until 2044.
- The eclipse will start around 2 pm and last until around 4 pm. This timeframe is when our students would normally be leaving, driving/riding home, going to athletic practices, etc. I'm told it will be nearly dark during this time; our elementary students would be getting off the bus in conditions they are not accustomed to.
- The Stark County Emergency Management Agency has advised that we should expect Stark County's (and the surrounding area's) population to **DOUBLE** on April 8 as people from neighboring states come to view the eclipse. As of today, most Stark Hotels are at or near capacity (Think of the traffic experienced during a major concert or event). Additionally, should there be any kind of emergency on that day, there may be delays getting ambulances to hospitals.
- From past eclipses in neighboring states, emergency management leaders advise that they saw extreme heavy demand for gasoline, hotels, campsites, restaurants, parks, and severe traffic jams. There were reports of heavy stress to cellular phone and internet service, first responder services, and infrastructure.
- Traffic was so severe when Kentucky had a full eclipse recently, that there was a report of a bus carrying elementary school children running 6 hours late.

For these reasons, after consultation with the Stark County Emergency Management Agency, I have determined that it is in the best interests of our students, staff, and families to close school. I have also canceled all after school activities (including practices) on that day. This will keep our buses, student drivers, parents and staff off the roads during the eclipse. I believe all schools in Stark and Carroll Counties are also closing. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. GO WARRIORS!!

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Superintendent  
Carrollton Exempted Village Schools

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