



Pearl River School District

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Marco F. Pochintesta, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Message From the Superintendent Solar Eclipse 4/8/24

March 27, 2024

Dear Pearl River School District Families and Staff,

As you may know, there will be a solar eclipse visible across North America on Monday, April 8. This remarkable and rare celestial event will begin around 2:40 p.m., but the maximum coverage will occur at approximately 3:20 p.m. The eclipse provides a unique opportunity for our students to learn about a natural phenomenon, while experiencing it firsthand. Although our region won't experience totality (when the entire sun is blocked), the sky is expected to darken as if it were dusk.

While this opportunity for learning is truly special, safety remains a top priority. To that end, the District has purchased eclipse glasses for all students which will be distributed at the end of the school day on April 8. Students will be informed that they are receiving the glasses to protect their eyes and the importance of wearing them if they directly view the sun during the eclipse. The glasses are not intended for casual use, as they are much darker than sunglasses. **Please help us by reinforcing the message at home to not view the eclipse without the use of the glasses.**

Varsity and Junior Varsity athletic teams will begin outdoor activities at 4:15 p.m. Modified Athletics are canceled for April 8 and will resume as per their normal schedule on April 9.

School operations and after school activities will proceed as usual on April 8.

To learn more about this event, please visit the [NASA website](#) and [The Great American Eclipse New York](#); Engaging interactive maps and videos about the eclipse path in New York.

Sincerely,

Marco F. Pochintesta, Ed.D.