



April 5, 2024

Dear Bendle Families,

On **Monday, April 8th**, we will have an opportunity to witness a historic event. In this area of Michigan, we will see a near total solar eclipse. The eclipse will begin at 1:58 pm, peak at 3:14 pm, and conclude at 4:27 pm. While this is an exciting event, safety is the number one priority when viewing a total eclipse. To ensure the safety of all students, a pair of solar eclipse glasses will be provided to all students to view the eclipse **after** our dismissal time. Since most students will be in practice, on the bus, or already home at this time, we are not requiring permission slips and are simply providing the glasses as a safety precaution.

However, we understand that some families may have concerns about this event. We believe that witnessing natural phenomena such as a solar eclipse can spark curiosity and inspire a love for science in our students. However, we respect each family's individual preferences regarding such events.

Please take this opportunity to have a conversation with your students and remind them that it is never safe to stare directly at the sun, especially during an eclipse.

Sincerely,

Tom Meszaros, Superintendent



5 Facts about the April 8-Solar Eclipse

1. This will be the 1st total eclipse in the US in 7 years.
2. A solar eclipse occurs when the Sun, Moon, and Earth are aligned.
3. Everyone in the US will see at least a partial eclipse.
4. It will last a total of 4 minutes and 28 seconds.
5. Nature will take heed. It will get darker, shadows will change shape, temps may drop 10 degrees, and birds will stop chirping.

Bendle Public Schools
3420 Columbine Ave.
Burton, MI 48529
Ph: 810-591-2501
Fax: 810-591-2210