

I know many of you have questions and concerns regarding the August 21st eclipse. We realize that this is a truly unique event. Many of you may be planning to observe the eclipse as a family. If your student will be checking out early on Monday, August, 21st, we would greatly appreciate you sending in a note by Friday, August 18th so that we may verify the note ahead of time. If you are planning on checking out your student please do so before 1:30. This will make the checkout process run more efficiently on the 21st.

We are currently working on a plan and schedule for Pope that will allow all classes/students that wish to participate have the opportunity to do so, with parent permission. It will also take in to account the extension of the school day by 45 minutes. The adjusted bell schedule for Pope HS for 21-August will be published next week. Permission slips will be processed by 7th period teachers.

Below are the guidelines pertaining to high schools that we will follow and incorporate into our plan:

TRANSPORTATION:

HIGH SCHOOL Level:

- Students may be dismissed once all the buses have arrived (approximately 4:15 PM).
- Schedules should be adjusted for the last period of the day to begin at 1:30 PM. This will allow minimum day students to leave campus before the eclipse.
- The adjusted bell schedule for Pope HS for 21-August will be published next week. This will account for the 45 minute delay in dismissal.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- All after-school practice times will be adjusted according to the 45-minute delay in dismissal.

ON-CAMPUS “FIELD TRIP”:

- Teachers of students in grades 3-12 may plan outdoor solar eclipse activity with Principal approval.
- Students must have a permission slip signed by a parent to participate. A permission slip designed and approved by the district will be available via their 7th period teacher.
- The school must have a signed permission form for any student who will be outside during peak hours of the eclipse (2:00-3:00pm).
- All safety and security guidelines will be followed as recommended and outlined by NASA in the attached document and at: <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety>
- Pope will have approximately 1400 approved viewing glasses for use by students.
- Any student who does not have a signed permission form may not be outside from 2:00 to 3:00 PM.
- Teachers are responsible for planning standard based and relevant instructional activities related to the event.

TECHNOLOGY:

GREAT NEWS! There will be a one hour live broadcast via IPTV from Kennesaw Mountain High School showcasing the observatory/eclipse from 1:45 - 2:45 PM.

NASA has curated a strong collection of informational resources on the eclipse. We recommend accessing this site for eclipse questions you may have regarding safety, timing, resources and more.

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/>



Thomas E. Flugum, Ed.S.
Principal, Pope HS.