



## Pierce County Schools

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### Event: Extended School Day---Solar Eclipse

**Event Date: Monday, August 21, 2017**

On August 21, all of Northern America will be treated to an eclipse of the sun. This is an event that rarely takes place. The eclipse will be partial in Pierce County.

Pierce County will use this teachable moment to increase the science literacy of our students. We will be utilizing a variety of resources compiled by NASA, American Astronomical Society, and Pierce County educators to provide an unforgettable learning experience for our students. The eclipse across America provides students with the opportunity to experience lighting, shadows, temperature, wind changes and exercise scientific skills such as making observations and hypothesizing cause and effect. Pierce County School District will provide a personal pair of solar eclipse viewing glasses to all students and staff. These eclipse glasses are NASA and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) tested, approved, and certified. Schools will provide further guidance and instructional resources as appropriate as well as safety procedures and precautions. Students will be reminded by staff about the dangers of looking directly at the sun. If you DO NOT want your child to participate in the events planned at your child's school on August 21, please notify the principal.

Since student safety is always our first priority, we will delay dismissal on Monday, August 21, 2017 to ensure that neither students nor employees are on the roadways during the time of the eclipse. The height of the eclipse is estimated to be 3-4 minutes during the time of regular elementary school dismissal. Because of this, Pierce County Schools is adjusting dismissal times to the following:

School	Bus Rider Dismissal	Car Rider Dismissal
Blackshear Elementary School	2:55 pm	2:55 pm
Midway Elementary School	2:55 pm	3:00 pm
Patterson Elementary School	2:55 pm	3:00 pm
PCMS	3:45 pm	3:45 pm
PCHS	3:55 pm	3:55 pm

As always, parents have the option to check their student out of school early following regular checkout procedures.