TO:  Lee County Parents, Students, and Staff
FROM:  Dr. Jim Evans, Superintendent
SUBJECT:  Eclipse Glasses
DATE:  August 17, 2017

Our initial plans were to take advantage of the great learning opportunity for our students while at school during the scheduled total eclipse; the first in almost 40 Years. We have since made the decision to close school on August 21st, 2017.

Solar eclipse glasses with lenses that meet ISO standards were purchased by the district for every student prior to the decision to close school. We will be distributing these glasses to all students Friday, August 18, 2017 in case parents wish to participate in the event with their child/children. It is the absolute discretion of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to permit their child/children to use the solar eclipse glasses for eclipse viewing. The district is simply providing the glasses. We have provided some safety tips and best practices below should you choose to allow your child/children to wear the glasses for eclipse viewing. Instructions for checking the glasses to make sure they are in tip-top shape before using them during the eclipse are also included.

Staring at the sun is a big deal! Take the time to make sure you’re staying safe. Don't take it ... lightly!

- First, take a quick look at the glasses themselves. If the lens is detached from the glasses or the glasses look unusable for any reason, do not use them to look at the sun.
- Even though our lenses meet ISO standards, we recommend you limit looking at the sun to no more than 3 minutes at a time. It's actually pretty hard to stare upward for 3 minutes straight. We know, we tried! But still, don't try to break any records. Three minutes tops.
- Keep an eye on the kiddos to make sure they have their solar eclipse glasses the whole time! We suggest setting up a practice time before the big show. Have them use their hands to keep the glasses in place and held tight against their face as the look at the eclipse.
- Be careful with glare. It can sneak around the solar eclipse glasses if you’re not careful. Of course, if you have eye-black, that could help (and you’ll look cool).
- The solar eclipse lenses are very dark. Do not try to use them for anything other than viewing the eclipse. You won’t be able to see anything!
- If you are in the totality (lucky), you can only take off your glasses when the entire sun eclipsed. The totality only lasts 2-3 minutes, so take it all in.
- Lastly, enjoy! It’s pretty cool that 300 million people all around the country will be watching the same natural phenomena at the same time.

By taking the time to ensure you are taking all the right safety precautions, you get to enjoy this amazing event without worry. Please visit www.eclipseforacause.com/instructions for more detailed information regarding how to use the eclipse glasses, free teaching aids, and some tips about when and how to enjoy the eclipse. For the terms and conditions of using the glasses, visit www.eclipseforacause.com/termsandconditions.

WARNING: WHEN ANY PART OF THE SUN'S BRIGHT DISK IS SHOWING, YOU MUST USE THE ECLIPSE GLASSES TO LOOK AT THE SUN!

The mission of the Lee County School District is to foster trust, growth, and accountability in partnership with students, staff, parents, and the community.
SAMPLEPHOTO:

-End Report-

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