



Raymond J. Kinder  
Superintendent

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April 3, 2024

Tamaqua Area SD Families:

On Monday, April 8, 2024, our area of Pennsylvania will experience a rare astronomical event - a partial solar eclipse where the moon will obscure nearly 93 percent of the sun. The eclipse will begin around 2:07 PM and last until around 4:34 PM.

This is an exciting event that many are looking forward to viewing. However, the timing of the eclipse during our dismissal times presents challenges for us to ensure the safety of all students and bus drivers in the district. As a result, all of the Schuylkill County Public School Districts, including Tamaqua Area have decided to dismiss school early on Monday, April 8, 2024, which will ensure all of our students are safely home before the onset of the eclipse. Dismissal times will be as follows:

Secondary - 11:30 AM  
Elementary - 12:25 PM

All home athletic practices and events along with extracurricular activities will be rescheduled or have their start times adjusted to occur after 5:00 PM.

NASA warns watching the sun as it's slowly obscured by the moon's shadow without specialized eye protection designed for solar viewing can cause serious eye injury. We encourage you to speak with your children about how to safely view the eclipse and the precautions they need to take if attempting to do so. There are several good resources on the NASA website linked here: <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/education>.

We thank you for your understanding and for helping keep our students safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "R. Kinder".

Raymond J. Kinder  
Superintendent, T ASD