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ALEJANDRO RUVALCABA, Ph.D., Superintendent

April 5, 2024

Dear Rosemead School District Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well and that you are enjoying Spring Break with your families. As we prepare for the upcoming solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024, I want to ensure that you are informed about the necessary precautions we are taking to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

Solar eclipses are remarkable celestial events where the moon passes between the sun and Earth, creating awe-inspiring moments in astronomy. During a partial solar eclipse, the moon covers only a portion of the sun, creating a crescent shape. Even during a partial eclipse, the sun's rays can cause eye damage if viewed directly. Therefore, it is vital to always use proper eye protection. However, please note that we will not be providing eye protection for this event, so students will need to remain indoors as much as possible during the eclipse.

To ensure the safety of our students, we have implemented the following measures:

- Creation of special schedules to minimize outdoor activities during the eclipse hours.
- Supervision of our younger students who need to go outside for restroom breaks by an adult escort to prevent direct viewing of the eclipse.

The solar eclipse is an incredible teaching moment. Our teachers will engage students in indoor activities related to the solar eclipse. Additionally, we will be providing resources such as the NASA Live Stream of the solar eclipse so students can experience the event.

For more information on solar eclipses and safety measures, please refer to the following resources:

- NASA's Total Solar Eclipse Safety: NASA Eclipse Safety https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/safety/
- American Astronomical Society's Solar Eclipse Safety: AAS Eye Safety https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety
- Space.com's Solar Eclipse Guide: Solar Eclipse Guide https://www.space.com/33784-solar-eclipse-guide.html
- Timeanddate.com's Solar Eclipse Page: Solar Eclipse Page https://www.space.com/33784-solar-eclipse-guide.html
- Sky & Telescope's Solar Eclipse Viewing Tips: Solar Eclipse Tips https://skyandtelescope.org/total-solar-eclipse-2024/

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our plans for the solar eclipse, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. The safety and well-being of our students are our top priorities, and we appreciate your cooperation and support in ensuring a safe experience for everyone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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Warm regards,

Alejandro Ruvalcaba, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools Rosemead School District