



# Gibbon Public Schools

P.O. Box 790

Gibbon, Nebraska 68840-0790

Dr. Vern Fisher, Superintendent  
308-468-6555

Troy Lurz, Secondary Principal  
308-468-5721

Robert Alderson, Elementary Principal  
308-468-6546

School Fax No. 308-468-5164

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On August 21, 2017, parts of Nebraska will be in the path of a total solar eclipse. This is the first time since 1918 a solar eclipse will be visible on a path across the entire continental United States, and the event presents an exciting learning opportunity for our students. We plan to incorporate the eclipse into our curriculum, activities, and events of your student's day. With your permission we will transport your student in a school vehicle to the University of Nebraska Kearney campus to take part in the Great American Eclipse Block Party. <http://unknows.unk.edu./2017/04/13/unk-nrg-media-plan-watch-party-for.aug-21-solar-eclispse>.

While this is an excellent opportunity for our students, we want to notify you of some risks associated with viewing a solar eclipse. It is only safe to view the eclipse with the naked eye when the moon completely covers the disk of the sun. At any other time it is not safe to view the eclipse without the proper precautionary measures. Failure to adhere to proper precautionary measures can result in permanent ocular damage and vision loss. For more information on these measures, here is a link to information released by NASA: <https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEhelp/safety2.html>.

As always, your student's safety is a top priority to our school. In order to reduce the risk associated with viewing the eclipse, we have taken some precautionary measures. We purchased eclipse-safe viewing glasses, and students will be encouraged to use these to view the eclipse safely. For more information regarding the safety certification of the special viewing glasses, please visit [www.eclipse@rainbowsymphony.com](http://www.eclipse@rainbowsymphony.com) or [www.rainbowsymphony.com](http://www.rainbowsymphony.com). Students will be discouraged from looking at the eclipse during its partial stages when risk of ocular damage is at its greatest. However, we cannot eliminate all risks associated with viewing a solar eclipse of this magnitude.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the specific manner the eclipse will be incorporated into your student's school day, please contact your student's teacher or a school administrator for more details. Parents and guardians who do not feel comfortable allowing their students to take part in viewing the eclipse should plan on having your student attend classes that day. A Parent permission form will need to be returned prior to your student loading the bus to attend the event.

Sincerely,

Mr. Troy Lurz,  
Jr./Sr. High Principal,  
Gibbon Public Schools