

# Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202

We prepare learners for the future.



## Timber Ridge Middle School

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August 17, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On Monday August 21, 2017 Illinois will be in the path of a near-total solar eclipse. This event is “The Great American Solar Eclipse,” as is the first time since 1918 that a solar eclipse will be visible in one form or another throughout the entire continental United States. Planning in Plainfield 202 is already underway so our students can experience this event first-hand.

We will provide solar glasses to all students and they be able to view the eclipse either directly or indirectly. Teachers and Principals will use their professional judgement in determining the level of participation for students. We will not permit students to look at the sun through a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while viewing the eclipse — the concentrated solar rays can enter human eye(s), potentially causing serious and permanent injury up to and including blindness.

The safe viewing of the eclipse is a priority for Plainfield 202 and we want to ensure that all students have a chance to experience the astronomical event for this generation in the safest way possible. We have purchased certified “eclipse viewing glasses” that meet international safety standards. Please be aware that the only safe way to look directly at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun is through special-purpose solar filters, such as “eclipse viewing glasses.” Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the sun. Because of the safety concerns associated with viewing an eclipse, the **attached permission slip** should be completed and returned to your child’s science teacher before August 21.

**Students without signed permission forms will not view the eclipse.** They will be able to view televised coverage and complete an alternative assignment from inside the school building on August 21.

If you need additional information, please contact your child’s science teacher or school administration.

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My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to view the Solar Eclipse on August 21.

I have talked with my child about the importance of wearing the eclipse viewing safety glasses while outside the school.

My Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_