



A.A. Nick Kerr Middle School, Burleson ISD

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Kalee McMullen, Principal
Cougar Pride!!!

Web Page: kerr.burlesonisd.net **Facebook:** KMS Cougars **Twitter:** @KMSCougar

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The 2017 Eclipse Across America will happen on Monday, August 21st and Kerr Middle School is ready! KMS teachers and students will have the opportunity to experience an extremely rare and awe inspiring event – a total solar eclipse. KMS will be using this “teachable moment” to increase the science literacy of our students. We will be utilizing a variety of resources curated by NASA and KMS educators to provide an unforgettable learning experience for our students.

Burleson is in the path of the eclipse. We will experience a 74% total solar eclipse. The eclipse will begin around 11:40 am and end around 2:40pm. The skies will gradually begin to darken as the moon moves into the path of the sun. Over time the sky it will become increasingly dark. In Burleson, the near total eclipse will happen around 1:09 pm. It will last just over 2 minutes. Then the skies will gradually become filled with more light, as the moon moves out of the path of the sun.

KMS will provide students opportunities to participate in the eclipse phenomena. Participation will include going outdoors to view the eclipse with student engineered solar eclipse viewers (pinhole projectors/cameras), using family purchased official eclipse glasses, watching the live NASA eclipse broadcast, participate in NASA’s Citizen Science Experiment and more. Teachers have been working hard to align the learning experiences on the 21st to concepts taught in each grade or course. To learn more about the 2017 Eclipse Across America please visit <http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov>.

Safety is always a top priority for KMS. We will take all precautionary measures with both students and staff to make this experience both safe and enjoyable. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the sun. Students will not be permitted to look at the sun through unfiltered cameras, telescopes, binoculars or other optical devices. (For more information regarding the safety certification of the special viewing glasses, please visit <http://goo.gl/pTa4mb>). Low cost solar eclipse viewing glasses (ISO 12312-2 certified) can be purchased at school from your science teacher (one/\$3 or two/\$5 cash only) Best Buy, Lowe’s, Kroger, Wal-mart, and other local retail stores, if you choose to purchase one on your own. Students are welcome to bring them to school that day for use. Please note that these are **not** required as students will be constructing pinhole projectors in class using two sheets of paper. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://eclipse.aas.org/resources/solar-filters>.

If you DO NOT want your child to participate during the outside portion of this event, then please complete the [Student Opt OUT Form https://goo.gl/forms/XInVYWsMtIJVJ2ap1](https://goo.gl/forms/XInVYWsMtIJVJ2ap1). Students will view the eclipse streamed from the NASA website.

We are excited about this stellar opportunity and look forward to student participation in this rare event. For any other questions you may have regarding safety, timing, resources and more, please reference <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/> or contact us directly.

Sincerely,

Kerr Science Teachers

Success: Whatever It Takes!!!