



A.A. Nick Kerr Middle School, Burleson ISD

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UPDATED

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 created 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>).

Kerr MS purchased low cost solar eclipse viewing glasses, but unfortunately, the vendor has recalled all of the glasses. As a result, we will be collecting any glasses sold by us and refunding any money paid. Starting Thursday, our science teachers will be reaching out to those who purchased the glasses to explain the refund process. You may also reach out directly to Mrs. Fuhrmeister at cfuhrmeister@bisdmail.net. We apologize for this unforeseen situation, but the safety of our students is our top priority.

All KMS students will be constructing pinhole projectors in class to use for viewing the eclipse. If you choose to purchase solar eclipse viewing glasses from an outside source, please be sure they are ISO 12312-2 certified for your child’s safety. If you choose to send solar viewing glasses with your student, we will also check to for the ISO 12312-2 certification. 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/XInVYWsMtlJVJ2ap1>. 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,

Kalee McMullen, Principal and the Kerr Science Teachers

Success: Whatever It Takes!!!