



EAST GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Andrea Evans, Superintendent

Gregory Wilson, Business Administrator

March 21, 2024

Dear East Greenwich Township School Community,

At last evening's board meeting, a change was made to the school calendar for Monday, April 8th. **Monday, April 8th will be an early dismissal (12:55pm) day for staff and students.**

On April 8th, East Greenwich will experience a partial solar eclipse between approximately 2:00pm and 4:30pm. Viewing a partial solar eclipse without proper eye protection can potentially cause serious damage to the eyes. According to NASA, to safely view the eclipse, "You must look through safe solar viewing glasses ("eclipse glasses") or a safe handheld solar viewer *at all times.*"

The timing of the eclipse coincides with our regular dismissal time, so many of our students would be outdoors during the eclipse, and some may be unsupervised. We are concerned students may be tempted to look directly at the sun during dismissal, the bus ride, the walk home from the bus stop, or for our non-transported students, at any time during the walk or bike ride home, and this could pose a risk to their eyesight. The safety of our students is always our first priority, and this decision is based on an abundance of caution.

Beyond the Bell will be closed in the afternoon, and there are no afterschool activities.

We appreciate your understanding as we continue to prioritize safety.

Sincerely,

Andrea Evans