

Festus Public Schools

REORGANIZED SCHOOL DISTRICT R-VI

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Dr. Link Luttrell
Superintendent

Mr. Nathan Holder
Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Nicki Ruess
Assistant Superintendent

July 20, 2017

To All Parents/Patrons of the R-VI School District,

On **Monday, August 21, 2017**, the United States will – *over the span of almost two hours* – experience more than two minutes of darkness in the middle of the day. Known as a “Total Solar Eclipse” with the moon completely obscuring the sun, darkness will fall, temperatures may drop 10-15 degrees, breezes may vanish, and stars and planets will be visible.

It is felt that this opportunity will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all students and patrons of the Festus R-VI School District. It is our hope to make this day both memorable and educational for all. **Festus R-VI School District WILL BE in session on this day.** While some school districts may cancel classes for that day, we have consulted with our local public officials and feel having school on this day will not be disruptive. The R-VI District will provide special eclipse viewing glasses to all students and staff to ensure proper eye protection during the event. Students will learn the appropriate guidelines for experiencing the eclipse, and teachers will provide a variety of learning activities for students to better understand the event.

“Totality” will last anywhere from a few seconds to over two minutes, depending upon the viewer’s specific location. In Festus, it is expected to last 2 minutes and 36 seconds.

Aug. 21st 2017 Festus Total Solar Eclipse Timeline

Start of Partial Eclipse	11:49:47 a.m.
Start of Total Eclipse	1:17:06 p.m.
Maximum Eclipse	1:18:25 p.m.
End of Total Eclipse	1:19:43 p.m.
End of Partial Eclipse	2:44:41 p.m.
Total Solar Eclipse (<i>darkness</i>) duration	2 minutes 36 seconds

Additional and more detailed information specific to each school attendance center will be forthcoming in the near future, so please watch our social media sites for updates. NASA information about the eclipse has been collected and can be accessed on our school website at <http://www.festus.k12.mo.us>

For immediate questions about Festus R-VI School District Eclipse Day, please contact Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Nicki Ruess at (636) 937-4920 or ruessnicki@festusedu.com By early August, each individual school attendance center will be able to address questions or concerns specific for their school site.

Educationally,
Link W. Luttrell
Link W. Luttrell, Ed.D
Superintendent