



Dear Springer Families,

On April 8, 2024, Ohio will experience a once-in-a-lifetime Total Solar Eclipse event. The last total solar eclipse in Ohio happened 217 years ago in 1806. Many parts of the state will be in total darkness for a brief period in the late afternoon. The rest of the state will see the sun at least 95% blocked by the moon during that time.

The timing of the total eclipse has created a tricky situation for school districts in the totality zone, as it is supposed to occur right around our dismissal time. The issue will not be the darkness, but instead, the amount of traffic in viewing areas, as the Ohio Emergency Management Team anticipates an extremely large number of visitors to the area to view this historic event. It is predicted that there will be travelers in the hundreds of thousands throughout Ohio. During other total eclipses in other parts of the country, this created gridlocked traffic conditions and travelers stopped all along roadways. More information and guidance from the Ohio Emergency Management team can be found HERE.

Due to the safety concerns regarding travel conditions and safe viewing during a non-structured time, **Springer School and Center has decided to close on Monday, April 8, 2024**. Several other districts in our area have already done the same.

We will be providing solar eclipse glasses to all of our students and staff members so they may view the once-in-a-lifetime total solar eclipse safely. Those will be sent home with students during the previous week.

School will resume as normal on Tuesday, April 9th.

We wish you happy, safe, once in a lifetime viewing!

Shanda Arthur Tara Willig

Dean of Students Head of High School