

## Total Solar Eclipse

On Monday August 21, 2017, our community, along with people all over the US, will be able to witness a rare total solar eclipse. Local and national news agencies have raised awareness of this rare experience and have drawn attention to the eye protection needed for safe viewing. The Yuba City area will experience an approximate 78% eclipse, with the Moon beginning to cover the Sun at 9:02 a.m., reaching maximum coverage at 10:17 a.m., and then moving away from the Sun at 11:39 a.m.

Sutter County Superintendent of Schools places student safety first. All students will be reminded that they should never look directly at the sun. We realize that some students may be curious and we ask that parents reinforce the same safety message at home. For students at Feather River Academy (FRA), it will be the responsibility of parents to provide solar eclipse sunglasses, that meet the international standard, should they want their child to participate in viewing the solar eclipse live. FRA students will also be provided the opportunity to view the solar eclipse via live streaming in classrooms, where appropriate. Due to special safety concerns, many of the students who attend our Special Day Classes (SDC) will not view the eclipse outdoors. Instead, these students will, as appropriate, be offered the opportunity to view this rare astronomical occurrence via live streaming in their classrooms and be able to witness the darkening of the skies through classroom windows. For FRA students, a parent signature on the permission slip sent home with students is **required by August 21<sup>st</sup>** in order for students to participate **using parent provided solar eclipse glasses**. Our SDC students, who will participate in viewing the eclipse live, will do so in conjunction with their school site host classrooms and **must return the site school permission forms by August 21<sup>st</sup>**. For our parents who either do not complete this form or choose to opt out, their child will remain inside the school building during the eclipse.

The solar eclipse offers unique and valuable educational opportunities and a variety of learning activities have been planned. Steps are being taken by staff to conduct these activities in a safe manner. If you or parents have questions regarding the specifics of these activities, the program principal should be contacted.