

# Charlton County Board of Education

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Board Members:  
Dr. Matthew P. Sands  
Mrs. Lucille Hannans  
Mr. Pender Lloyd  
Mr. Curtis Nixon  
Mr. John Canaday

1259 Third Street  
Folkston, GA 31537  
(912) 496-2596  
Fax: (912) 496-2595

Superintendent  
Dr. John D. Lairsey

The Charlton County School System will be on an early release schedule for students and staff on **Monday, August 21, 2017**. Our area will be experiencing a solar eclipse from approximately 1:00pm - 4:00pm on this date. A solar eclipse is a lineup of the Sun, Moon, and Earth. The Moon, directly between the Sun and Earth, casts a shadow on our planet. After much deliberation and feedback, we feel it best to shorten the school day.

Several factors influenced our decision:

- Overall safety for students, staff and stakeholders.
- Eye safety concerns for staff and students including the difficulty to find and purchase approved eyewear for all students to view the solar eclipse in a safe manner.
- Parents, students, and faculty will be able to experience the solar eclipse with their families, friends, and groups since this phenomenon happens so rarely during a lifetime.

The solar eclipse will be a wonderful learning opportunity for parents, students, and the entire community. Our school system will provide safety information and suggested learning activities associated with the solar eclipse on the system website and will be integrating the phenomenon into instructional activities.

**Extra-Curricular Activities:** All extra-curricular activities scheduled for this date will proceed after 3:30 p.m. As always, we thank you for your understanding and continued support of Charlton County Schools.

All schools will release beginning at 12:00 noon. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all students.

For additional information please about the eclipse please see the following websites:  
<https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2017/7/25/15925410/total-solar-eclipse-2017-explained>

[https://www.preventblindness.org/sites/default/files/national/documents/fact\\_sheets/FS110\\_Solar\\_Eclipse.pdf](https://www.preventblindness.org/sites/default/files/national/documents/fact_sheets/FS110_Solar_Eclipse.pdf)

<https://www.starnetlibraries.org/2017eclipse/eclipse-resource-center/educational-resources/eclipse-websites/>