

Eclipse Cancels Atchison Classes

(KAIR)--No school for students of Atchison's USD 409 on August 21.

That decision is made due to the timing of the historic solar eclipse, set to happen that afternoon.

According to a Facebook post Tuesday, the increasing number of visitors, and potential traffic issues, led school leaders to make the decision to close for the day.

The post cited discussions with other local leaders, including emergency responders, in calling off classes.

Area emergency planners are estimating more than 1 million visitors to the local northeast Kansas region for the solar eclipse. That's due to the local area allowing a clear view and a longer length of total darkness than in other spots across the nation.

In Atchison, the eclipse is estimated to last nearly 2 minutes and 19 seconds starting at 1:06 p.m.

It will be the first total solar eclipse visible from the contiguous United States since 1979, and the first seen in Kansas in nearly 100 years.

Many Signals Communications