

Eclipse Cancels Another Atchison School

(KAIR)--Another local school cancels classes due to the timing of this month's solar eclipse.

Maur Hill-Mount Academy has called off school because of the August 21 event.

According to an email to MSC News from school president and headmaster Phil Baniewicz, the decision was made Friday for the Catholic high school to join Atchison's USD 409 in calling off classes for the day.

The public schools earlier this week made the decision to close for the day, citing the expected number of visitors to Atchison and potential traffic issues.

A Facebook post by the school district Tuesday 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 historic 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.

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