

All Eagle Eyes Looked to the Sky

The ESD community gathered together to witness the Total Solar Eclipse.

From eclipse-themed devised theater performances to hand-made science projects, the past few weeks have been filled with anticipation for today's big event – the 2024 Great North American Eclipse. Spanning 13 states from Maine to Texas, this rare celestial phenomenon will cast its midday shadow directly over ESD as the moon passes between the Earth and the sun. With special t-shirts, UV glasses, and aptly-themed treats like Sunny D and Moonpies, we're ready for a celebration!

Around 1:15 p.m., everyone in the community gathered, glasses ready, on the football field and Stoffel Commons to witness a shared moment in history, looking to the sky in awe and wonder. At the same time, some were looking at their green and red ESD shirts, which affect the three types of color-distinct cones in our eyes. Due to the quick change in lighting during totality, our eyes "refreshed," causing colors to appear differently than they would if light were changing at a slower rate, such as during sunset.

According to eighth-grade dean and science teacher Scott Goetsch, "Because the light will dim so quickly in the three to four minutes before totality, the red cones will have time to refresh, and the red shirts will start to look more gray with the rods in our eyes taking over for the cones," he explained. "The green cones will not have had time to refresh, so the green will stay green and appear more vibrant next to the now dull red."

Needless to say, April 8, 2024, will be a day to remember for everyone in North Texas, but especially for those surrounded by the collective joy permeating our community—not to mention all of the fun souvenirs our students will be taking home for their personal halls of fame!