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Tradition. Excellence. Innovation.

March 28, 2017

Dear D7 Family and Friends,

Attached is the 2017-2018 academic calendar. We'd like to call your attention to the following items:

- While South Carolina normally prohibits the first day of school prior to the third Monday in August, the legislature has granted an exception to the rule this school year only due to the total solar eclipse forecast for Monday, August 21, 2017. The first day of school for students will be on Thursday, August 17, 2017.
- In most districts throughout the Upstate school will be closed for students on Monday, August 21, the day of the solar eclipse. This will allow families the opportunity to experience this once-in-a-lifetime phenomenon however they choose to do so.
 - Educators in District 7 are excited about the opportunity to feature the eclipse in lesson plans and school curricula.
 - The full eclipse will fall in a narrow path from Oregon to South Carolina. In the arc of the path, where total darkness is expected on the afternoon of August 21, South Carolina is expecting hundreds of thousands of tourists to witness the event.
 - The following links provide more information about the solar eclipse and will be fun for families to explore together.
<https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEhelp/safety2.html>
<https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com>
<http://scliving.coop/sc-life/sc-life-features/total-blackout/>
<http://www.eclipse2017.org/2017/states/SC.htm>
- Winter break runs Friday, Dec. 22 through Sunday, Jan. 5, 2018 (11 total days) and affords students and their families three holiday weekends in a row.
- The Staff Development (Teacher Work Day) on March 30, 2018 falls on Good Friday and precedes the Spring Break holiday during the week of April 2 – 6, 2018.
- Friday, June 1, 2018 will be the last student day, with the last day for teachers on June 4.

The 2017-2018 calendar is available on the D7 website in the Quick links sidebar section of each school's website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Russell W. Booker'.

Russell W. Booker, Ph.D.
Superintendent