



Cultures Connecting Diversity Calendar 2020-2021



Mission Statement:

The purpose of this calendar is to address and support the diversity of students, staff, and families in K-12 education settings and beyond. We recognize that by increasing our understanding of diverse cultures, group experiences, traditions, values and beliefs, we can enhance our relationships with one another and hence, create culturally responsive environments where everyone feels valued and respected.

How Dates Were Chosen:

Due to the extensive number of cultural holidays, dates for this calendar were determined by the following four criteria:

- 1) Might a student or staff member be absent as a result of this day?
- 2) Might a student or staff member be disengaged as a result of this day (e.g., hunger or a negative association with a particular day/date such as Thanksgiving, or a day of remembrance of a tragic event)?
- 3) Might a student, family, or staff member not be able to participate in a school activity during or after school as a result of this day? (e.g., Many of our students do not participate in Halloween or Valentine's Day. There are students, families, and staff who cannot participate in district/school events that are scheduled on the evening of an important religious day observed by the Jewish and Muslim communities).
- 4) Does the day provide an opportunity for a teachable moment regarding ethnic or cultural diversity that might not otherwise be discussed, particularly dates associated with a continued history of oppression, discrimination, or racism?

Work in Progress:

We ask for your patience in the event that we have missed important dates that apply to the four criteria above. This was an enormous task taken on by a handful of individuals of good will and intention. If you know of additional cultural holidays that meet the above criteria, or would like to offer suggestions for appropriate websites, books, or other resources that can be used to improve this calendar, please contact: Kenzie Gandy at kenzie.gandy@culturesconnecting.com.

Acknowledgements:

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Special Thanks:

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- Mohamed Roble, Bilingual Community Liaison
- Ilsa Govan, Equity & Race Specialist
- Kenzie Gandy, Administrative Specialist, Cultures Connecting

Diversity Calendar Committee Members:

- Caprice Hollins, Director of Equity and Race Relations
- Hung Pham, Bilingual & Community Liaison
- Shelly Rosen, SPS Parent
- Carl Shutoff, Instructional Technology Resource Teacher

Notes:

- *Starred (*) holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.*
- *Caret (^) indicates work restrictions.*
- *Due to regional and cultural differences, the holidays listed may be celebrated on different dates by individuals of the same faith.*
- *Muslim holidays are based on actual sighting of the moon and therefore the date may vary.*
- *For more information on individual holidays, click the holiday title to view its hyperlink (many are linked to Wikipedia).*

AUGUST 2020

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Aug. 19-20*	Al-Hijra / Muharram	Islamic	
Aug. 28-29*	Ashura	Islamic	

SEPTEMBER 2020 Hispanic Heritage Month

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Sept. 7	Labor Day		No school.
Sept. 11	Enkutatash (New Year)	Ethiopian	
Sept. 16	Mexican Independence Day	Mexican	
Sept. 18-20*^	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	Rosh Hashanah kicks off several weeks of Jewish holidays in the fall. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the two most-observed Jewish Holidays, called the high holy days.
Sept. 21-29*	Mabon	Neo-Pagan	
Sept. 27-28*	Yom Kippur	Jewish	Day of fasting.

OCTOBER 2020

Cultural Diversity Month | Coming Out Month | Disability Employment Awareness Month | Filipino American History Month

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Oct. 1	Tet Trung Thu (Vietnam) Moon Festival (China, Taiwan) Chu-Seok (Korea)	Vietnam, China, Taiwan, Korea	
Oct. 2-9*^	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	Jewish	
Oct. 9-11*^	Shemini Atzeret	Jewish	
Oct. 11	National Coming Out Day	LGTBQ+ and Allies	
Oct. 10-11*^	Simchat Torah	Jewish	
Oct. 12	Día de la Raza	Latinx, Mexican	
Oct. 12	Indigenous People's Day	United States	
Oct. 17-18*^	Birth of the Báb	Bahá'i	
Oct. 17-25*	Navaratri/Dassehra	Hindu	
Oct. 18-19*^	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'i	
Oct. 26	Dashain	Bhutan	
Oct. 28-29*	Mawlid-al-Nabi (birthday of Mohammad)	Islamic	
Oct. 31	Halloween	United States	Be mindful that not all families observe Halloween.
Oct. 31-Nov. 1	Samhain	Neo-Pagan	
Oct. 31-Nov. 2	Día de los Muertos	Mexican	

NOVEMBER 2020 Native American Heritage Month

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Nov. 1	All Saint's Day	Anglican & Roman Catholic	
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day	United States	
Nov. 14 [^]	Diwali	Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Buddhist	
Nov. 20	Transgender Day of Remembrance	International, LGBTQ+ and Allies	
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Day	United States	No school. http://americanindiansource.com/mourningday.html
Nov. 30	Birthday of Guru Nanak	Sikh	

DECEMBER 2020

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Dec. 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Catholic	
Dec. 10-18*	Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	
Dec. 12	Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Mexican Catholic	
Dec. 16-24	Las Posadas	Mexican	
Dec. 16-24	Simbang Gabi	Filipino Catholic	
Dec. 21	Winter Solstice / Yule	Neo-Pagan	
Dec. 25	Christmas Day	Christian	No school.
Dec. 26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa	African American	

JANUARY 2021

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Jan. 1 [^]	Gantan-sai	Shinto	
Jan. 1	New Year's Day	International	No school.
Jan. 6	Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day/Epiphany)	Mexican Christian	
Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Day	United States	No school.
Jan. 20 [^]	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh	Sikh	
Jan. 20	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	
Jan. 27	Holocaust Remembrance Day	International	

FEBRUARY 2021 **African American History Month**

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Feb. 1-2	Imbolc	Neo-Pagan	
Feb. 3	Setsubun-sai	Shinto	
Feb. 12	Tết	Vietnam	
Feb. 12	Chinese New Year	China	
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day	International	Be mindful that not all students observe this holiday.
Feb. 17	President's Day		No school.
Feb. 17	Ash Wednesday	Christian	
Feb. 17-Mar. 29	Lenten Season	Christian	
Feb. 19	Day of Remembrance (Japanese Incarceration)	United States	
Feb. 26	Magha Puja Day	Buddhist	
Feb 28 - 29*	Purim	Jewish	

MARCH 2021 **Women's History Month | Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Mar. 8	International Women's Day	International	
Mar. 11	Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	
Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day	Irish	
Mar. 20	Ostara	Neo-Pagan	
Mar. 20*	Naw Rúz	Bahá'í / Persian / Kurdish / Zoroastrianism	
Mar. 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	International	
Mar. 21-22	Persian New Year (Nowruz)	Iranian	
Mar. 27-Apr. 4*^	Passover (Pesach)	Jewish	
Mar. 28-29*	Holi	Hindu	
Mar. 28-Apr. 3	Holy Week	Christian	
Mar. 31	César Chávez Day	United States	
Mar. 31	International Transgender Day of Visibility	International, LGBTQ+ and Allies	

APRIL 2021 **Autism Acceptance Month | Holocaust Remembrance Month**

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Apr. 1	Maundy Thursday	Christian	
Apr. 2	World Autism Awareness Day	United States	
Apr. 2	Good Friday	Christian	
Apr. 4^	Easter	Christian	
Apr. 6	National Tartan Day	Scottish American	
Apr. 8	Yom HaSho'ah	Jewish	
Apr. 9	National Day of Silence	LGBTQ+ and Allies	
Apr. 12-May 11*^	Ramadan	Islamic	
Apr. 14	Vaisakhi	Sikh	

Apr. 14-16	Bun Pi Mai (New Year)	Laotian	Begins on the first full moon of April.
Apr. 14-16*	Cambodian New Year		
Apr. 21	Ramanavami	Hindu	
Apr. 21-May 2*	First Day of Ridván	Bahá'i	
Apr. 27-28*	Ninth Day of Ridván	Bahá'i	
Apr. 28	Palm Sunday	Christian / Orthodox	
Apr. 30	Orthodox Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	
Apr. 30	Día de los Niños	Mexican	
Apr. 30-May 1*	Twelfth Day of Ridván	Bahá'i	

MAY 2021 Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
May 1*	Beltane	Neo-Pagan	
May 1	May Day (International Worker's Day)	International	
May 2	Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	
May 5	Cinco de Mayo	United States / Mexican	
May 8	Buddha Day / Visakha Puja / Vesek	Buddhist	
May 9	Mother's Day		Mother's Day (always May 10 th in Mexico) is very important for Mexican Families.
May 9	Laylat al-Qadr	Islamic	
May 12-13*^	Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	
May 16-18*^	Shavuot	Jewish	
May 22-23*	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'i	
May 23	Pentecost	Christian	

May 27-28*	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'i	
May 31	Memorial Day	United States / Mexican	No school.

JUNE 2021 LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Jun. 12	Loving Day	United States	
Jun. 12	Philippine Independence Day	Filipino	
Jun. 19	Juneteenth	African American	
Jun. 19-20	Eid-ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	Islamic	
Jun. 20	Summer Solstice/Litha	Neo-Pagan	
Jun. 27	17th of Tammuz	Jewish	
Jun. 28	Pride	International, LGBTQ+ and Allies	

JULY 2021

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Jul. 4	Independence Day		
Jul. 5	Dharma Day	Buddhist	
Jul. 17-18	Tisha B'Av	Jewish	
Jul. 17-22	Hajj	Islamic	
Jul. 23	Birthday of Haile Selassie	Rastafarian	

AUGUST 2021

Date(s):	Holiday / Observance:	Religious / Cultural Group:	Notes:
Aug. 1	Lughnasadh (Lammas)	Neo-Pagan	
Aug. 9-Sept. 6*	Al-Hijra / Muharram	Islamic	

Aug. 10	Muharram (Al Hijrah New Year)	Islamic
Aug. 12	International Youth Day	International
Aug. 13-15	Obon	Japanese Buddhist
Aug. 22	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu
Aug. 29	Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu

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