

Diversity Calendar

2017 / 2018

Diversity Calendar 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 above four criteria. This was an enormous task taken on by a handful of individuals of good will and intention. If you know of another date that meets the above criteria and therefore should have been included, or if there is a date listed that does not meet the criteria and therefore should not have been included, please contact Ilsa Govan at ilsa.govan@culturesconnecting.com.

Additional Information

If you know of appropriate websites, books, or other resources email [Ilsa Govan](mailto:ilsa.govan@culturesconnecting.com). Also, please inform us of any websites that were inappropriately chosen to explain a particular day.

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Acknowledgements

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- Ilsa Govan, Equity & Race Specialist
- Mercedes Robinson, Administrative Assistant, 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.*

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 day may vary.

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September 2017 Hispanic Heritage Month

1- 5*	Eid-ul-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	http://www.religioustolerance.org/isl_feast.htm	Islamic
11	Enkutatash (New Year)	http://www.awazetours.com/Visit-Ethiopia/Ethiopian-Festivals/New_Year.html	Ethiopian
16	Mexican Independence Day	http://www.presidiolabahia.org/mex_ind.htm	Mexican
20-22*	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday2.htm	Jewish
21- Oct 19*	AlHijra / Muharram	http://www.islamicity.com/articles/Articles.asp?ref=IC0303-1877	Islamic
22-23*	Mabon	https://wicca.com/celtic/akasha/mabon.htm	Neo-Pagan
27-Oct 2	Dashain	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dasain	Nepalese
29-30*	Ashura	http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/holidays/ashura.htm	Islamic
29-30*	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/holiday4.html	Jewish

October 2017 Cultural Diversity Month / Coming Out Month / Filipino American History Month

4	Tet Trung Thu (Vietnam) Moon Festival (Hong Kong, China, Taiwan) ChuSeok (Korea)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mid-Autumn_Festival	Vietnam, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Korea
4-11*	Sukkot	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday5.htm	Jewish
9	Indigenous People's Day / Columbus Day	http://www.homemadejam.org/rethinking-columbus.html http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbus_Day?	United States
9	Día de la Raza	http://zedillo.presidencia.gob.mx/welcome/PAGES/culture/note_12oct.html	Latin America, Mexican
11	National Coming Out Day	http://www.hrc.org/resources/national-coming-out-day	LGBTQ and Allies
11-13*	Shemini Atzeret	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
12-13*	Simchat Torah	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
19	Diwali	http://hinduism.about.com/od/diwalifestivaloflights/a/diwali.htm	Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Buddhist
20-21*	Birth of the Báb	http://bahai-invitation.com/feast/fhd08.html	Bahá'i
21-22*	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	http://birth-of-baha-u-llah.123holiday.net/	Bahá'i

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31	Halloween	http://www.history.com/topics/halloween Keep in mind that not all families view Halloween positively.	USA
31-Nov 1	Samhain	https://www.thoughtco.com/all-about-samhain-2562691	Neo-Pagan
31-Nov 2	Día de los Muertos	http://www.azcentral.com/story/entertainment/holidays/day-of-the-dead/2014/09/24/day-of-the-dead-history/16174911/	Mexican

November 2017 Native American Heritage Month			
1	All Saint's Day	http://www.churchyear.net/allsaints.html	Anglican & Roman Catholic
4	Birthday of Guru Nanak	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/sikhism/people/nanak.shtml	Sikh
11	Veterans Day	http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp	USA
20	Transgender Day of Remembrance	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transgender_Day_of_Remembrance	International
23	Thanksgiving	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving_(United_States) Keep in mind that not all families view Thanksgiving positively. http://americanindiansource.com/mourningday.html	European American

December 2017			
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feast_of_the_Immaculate_Conception	Catholic
12	Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Our_Lady_of_Guadalupe	Mexican Catholic
12-20*	Hanukkah	http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/default_cdo/jewish/Chanukah.htm	Jewish
16-24	Las Posadas	http://www.britannica.com/topic/Las-Posadas	Mexican
16-24	Simbang Gabi (Christmas)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simbang_Gabi	Filipino Catholic
21	Winter Solstice / Yule	https://wicca.com/celtic/akasha/yule.htm	Neo-Pagan
25	Christmas	http://www.history.com/topics/christmas	Christian
26-Jan 1	Kwanzaa	http://www.history.com/topics/kwanzaa-history	African American

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January 2018

1	New Year's Day	http://www.infoplease.com/spot/newyearhistory.html	International
5	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bodhi_Day	Buddhist
5	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guru_Gobind_Singh	Sikh
6	Día de los Reyes (Three Kings Day / Epiphany)	http://www.inside-mexico.com/ReyesMagos.htm	Mexican Christian
7	Christmas (Orthodox)	http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/russia/christmas-day	Orthodox Christian
15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther_King_Jr._Day	USA
27	Holocaust Remembrance Day	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/yomhashoah.html	International

February 2018

African American History Month

2	Imbolc(g)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imbolc	Neo-Pagan
11	Day of Remembrance (Japanese Incarceration)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day_of_Remembrance_(Japanese_Americans)	USA
14	Valentine's Day	http://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day <i>Be mindful that not all students celebrate Valentine's Day.</i>	International
14	Ash Wednesday	http://christianity.about.com/od/holidaytips/qt/whatisashwednes.htm	Christian
14-Mar 29	Lenten Season	http://wilstar.com/holidays/lent.htm <i>Many Filipino families return to the Philippines during this time.</i>	Christian
16	Lunar New Year (Year of the Dog)	http://www.asianamericanbooks.com/lny_ch_a.htm#general	China, Taiwan, Viet Nam, Singapore, Korea
19	President's Day Holiday	http://usparks.about.com/library/weekly/aa021499.htm	USA
28-Mar 1*	Purim	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday9.htm	Jewish

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March 2018

Women's History Month / Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

1-2*	Holi	http://www.holifestival.org/holi-festival.html	Hindu
8	International Women's Day	https://www.internationalwomensday.com/About	International
17	St. Patrick's Day	http://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day	Irish
20	Ostara	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usma&c=holidays&id=1991	Neo-Pagan
20-21*	Naw Ruz	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bah%C3%A1%27%C3%AD_Naw-R%C3%BAz	Bahá'i
21	Persian New Year (Nowruz)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nowruz	Iranian
21	International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Day_for_the_Elimination_of_Racial_Discrimination	International
25	Palm Sunday	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palm_Sunday	Christian / Orthodox
25-31	Holy Week	http://www.crivoice.org/cyholyweek.html	Christian
30	Good Friday	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_Friday	Christian / Orthodox
30-Apr 7*	Pesach / Passover	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidaya.htm	Jewish
31	César Chávez Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cesar_Chavez_Day	USA

April 2018

Holocaust Remembrance Month

1	Easter Sunday	http://www.religionfacts.com/christianity/holidays/easter.htm	Christian
6	National Tartan Day	http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/national-tartan-day	Scottish American
8	Orthodox Easter / Pascha	http://www.factmonster.com/spot/easter1.html	Eastern Orthodox
8	Vesak	http://www.buddhanet.net/vesak.htm	Buddhist
14	Vaisakhi	http://www.sikhiwiki.org/index.php?title=Vaisakhi	Sikh
14-16	Bun Pi Mai (New Year)	http://goseasia.about.com/od/laos/a/bun_pi_mai.htm Begins on the first full moon of April.	Laotian
20-May 2*	First Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.com/walbridge_encyclopedia_ridvan	Bahá'i
27	National Day of Silence	http://www.dayofsilence.org/	LGBTQ and Allies
28*	Ninth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.com/walbridge_encyclopedia_ridvan	Bahá'i
30	Día de los Niños	http://dia.ala.org/content/about-d%C3%ADA	Mexican

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May 2018 Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month			
1*	Beltane	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beltane	Neo-Pagan
1	May Day (International Worker's Day)	http://www.iww.org/projects/mayday/origins.shtml	International
1*	Twelfth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.com/walbridge_encyclopedia_ridvan	Bahá'i
5	Cinco de Mayo	http://www.mexonline.com/cinco.htm	USA / Mexican
13	Mother's Day	http://www.bajainsider.com/baja-life/holidays/mothersdaymexico.html Mother's Day (always May 10 th in Mexico) is very important for Mexican Families.	Mexican
15-Jun 14	Ramadan	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramadan	Islamic
19-21*	Shavuot	http://www.holidays.net/shavuot/	Jewish
20	Pentecost	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/pentecost.shtml	Christian
23-24*	Declaration of the Báb	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/bahai/holydays/declarationbab.shtml	Bahá'i
28	Memorial Day Holiday	http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history	USA
28-29*	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	http://www.readthespirit.com/religious-holidays-festivals/tag/bahaullah/	Bahá'i

June 2018 LGBTQ Pride Month			
12	Loving Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loving_Day	USA
12	Philippine Independence Day	http://www.msc.edu.ph/centennial/independence.html	Filipino
14	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	http://islam.about.com/od/ramadan/f/eid_fitr.htm	Islamic
19	Juneteenth	http://www.pbs.org/wnet/african-americans-many-rivers-to-cross/history/what-is-juneteenth/	African American
24	Summer Solstice / Litha	http://paganwiccan.about.com/od/lithathesummersolstice/a/AllAboutLitha.htm	Neo-Pagan
24-25	Pride	http://seattlepride.org/	LGBTQ and Allies
30-Jul 1	17th of Tammuz	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventeenth_of_Tammuz	Jewish

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July 2018

21-22*	Tisha B'Av	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidayd.htm	Jewish
23	Birthday of Haile Selassie	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haile_Selassie_I	Rastafarian
28	Dharma Day	http://www.beliefnet.com/Faiths/Buddhism/Dharma-Day-A-Universal-Celebration-of-The-Buddhas-Teachings.aspx	Buddhist

August 2018

1	Lughnasadh (Lammas)	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/paganism/holydays/lughnasadh.shtml	Neo-Pagan
12	International Youth Day	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Youth_Day	International
15	Obon	http://www.buddhistchurch.com/events/Obon.htm	Japanese Buddhist
30	Hajj	http://www.religioustolerance.org/isla1.htm	Islamic

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