

FPS Appreciation and Recognition Calendar 2020-2021

Franklin Pierce Schools is home to a wonderfully diverse community, representing an array of cultures, perspectives, and traditions. We also have a history of celebrating the contributions of those among us based on identity and profession.

The following guidelines are an attempt to support the planning of school activities to celebrate the contributions of those among us and to be mindful of the ways that our scheduling and planning intersects with students, families and staff ability to participate based on their recognition of holidays and cultural dates of significance.

National observances and commemorative months:

Commemorative months afford us the opportunity to honor the traditions and experiences of our students, families, and staff. Recognizing these months provides an opportunity for learning while helping to create a sense of belonging and connection.

Holiday or Observance	Date/Month
Latinx Heritage Month	September 15-October 15
Constitution Day and Citizenship Day	September 17
Indigenous Peoples' Day	Oct. 12, 2020
National Disability Employment Awareness Month	October
American Indian Heritage Month	November
Human Rights Day	December 10
African American History Month	February
Women's History Month	March
Irish American Heritage Month	March
Law Day	May 1
Asian Pacific Heritage Month	May
Jewish American Heritage Month	May
LGBTQ Pride Month	June

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Employee Group Appreciation

FPS has a rich history of celebrating the employee groups across our system. This recognition is meant to demonstrate appreciation to staff across our system for their essential role in supporting students. The calendars listed below represent national recognition weeks observed in public schools across the country.

Employee Recognition	Date(s)
Nutrition Services - National School Lunch Week	October 12-16
Transportation Staff – National Bus Safety Week	October 19-23
Substitutes – American Education Week	November 16-20
Custodians and Maintenance Staff	November 30- December 4
School Board Recognition Month	January
National School Counseling Week School Counselors and ESAs (Psychologists, Counselors, Physical Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Social Workers) –	February 1-5
Classified Instructional Support (Paraeducators, Job Coaches, Interpreters/Tutors, Security Officers, Family Engagement & Drug-free Coordinators, Pre-school Instructors and Family Support Specialists)	March 8-12
Professional Technical Staff (Information Technology, Purchasing Manager, Construction Project Manager, , Assessment Coordinators, Facilities Manager, Recreation Manager, Farm Manager, Supt. and K-12 Staff, HR/Payroll/Business Services Staff, Construction Project Manager)	March 23-27
Volunteers – Public School Volunteer Week	April 18-24
Administrative Professionals Week Secretarial and Clerical Support Staff –	April 19-23
National Teacher Appreciation Week Certificated Staff (May 4 National Teacher Appreciation Day) –	May 3-7
Health Professionals	May 10-14
National Educational Bosses Week	May 17-21

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Calendar of holidays and religious observances:

The calendar below lists holidays, traditional observances, and major days of religious significance. Please consider this calendar when planning events and programs that encourage student and family participation in an attempt to not ask families to prioritize school involvement over their cultural and religious activities.

Holiday or Observance	Religious Group	Dates	Additional Notes
Navratri/Dussehra	Hindu	Oct. 17-26, 2020	
*Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	Sept. 18-20, 2020	Designated non-workday for observers
*Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	Sept. 27-28, 2020	Designated non-workday for observers
Indigenous Peoples' Day		Oct. 12	
*Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	Jewish	Oct. 2-9, 2020	* Primary Obligation Days; Designated non-workday for observers
*Shmini Atzeret	Jewish	Oct. 9-11, 2020	Designated non-workday for observers
*Simchat Torah	Jewish	Oct. 10-11, 2020	Designated non-workday for observers
Diwali	Hindu	Nov. 14, 2020	
Mawlid-al-Nabi (birthday of Mohammad)	Islamic	Oct. 28-29, 2020	Date not fixed. See note above.
Veteran's Day		Nov. 11, 2020	Class not in session
Thanksgiving Day		Nov. 26, 2020	Class not in session
Hanukkah (Chanukah)	Jewish	Dec. 10-18, 2020	
Christmas Day	Christian	Dec. 25, 2020	Class not in session
New Year's Day		Jan. 1, 2021	Class not in session
Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	Jan. 7, 2021	
Martin Luther King Day		Jan. 18, 2021	Class not in session

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Lunar New Year		Feb. 12, 2021	
President's Day		Feb. 15, 2021	Class not in session
Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	Mar. 11, 2021	
Beginning of Lent	Christian Orthodox	Feb. 17, 2021	
Ash Wednesday	Christian	Feb. 17, 2021	
Holi	Hindu	Mar. 29, 2021	
Purim	Jewish	Fe. 25-26, 2021	
Ramanavami	Hindu	Apr. 21, 2021	
*Passover (Pesach)	Jewish	March 27-Apr. 4, 2021	* Primary Obligation Days; Designated non-workday for observers
Good Friday	Christian	Apr. 2, 2021	
Easter	Christian	Apr. 4, 2021	
Orthodox Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	Apr. 30, 2021	
Orthodox Easter	Christian Orthodox	May 2, 2021	
Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	Apr. 12, 2021	Ramadan: Apr. 12-May 11, 2021
Lailat Ul Qadr	Islamic	May 8, 2021	Date not fixed. See note above.
Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	May 12-13, 2021	Ramadan: Apr. 24-May 24, 2020; Dates not fixed. See note above.
Memorial Day		May 25, 2021	Class not in session
*Shavuot	Jewish	May 16-18, 2021	Designated non-workday for observers