

# Accommodation of Students' Cultural and Religious Observances

The Beaverton School District has a richly diverse student population. To support our students and reduce conflicts between their academic achievement and observation of important cultural and religious traditions, the BSD School Board has revised Policy IGACA - Recognition and Accommodation of Religious and Cultural Beliefs, Customs and Observances. We see this policy as an opportunity for our school communities to better understand and appreciate all our families' backgrounds and traditions.

Some key points include:

- A student will be given an excused absence from school on the day of their cultural or religious holiday or observance. A parent/guardian should call the school's main office to report the excused absence.
- If a student misses a test or assignment, the teacher will provide a meaningful opportunity and reasonable time to make up the missed assessment or work. We encourage families to communicate potential conflicts in advance so that teachers have time to make reasonable accommodations.
- Make-up opportunities will not be required on the school day immediately after a student's absence related to a cultural or religious holiday or observance.
- Schools will avoid scheduling important events on these major holidays: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Diwali, Christmas, Lunar New Year, Easter, Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. The district developed this list with input from the community; it is limited and does not reflect all important cultural and religious holidays.
- Teachers will avoid scheduling tests on the above days. They also are encouraged to avoid scheduling tests or making major assignments due on the day immediately following one of these days, respecting that impacted students may be unable to study on the holiday or may be affected by fasting or late-night observances.
- There may be circumstances in which scheduling events or assessments on these days is necessary or outside the control of the school, but those exceptions will be rare.

## Do-Not-Schedule Dates

Holiday	2022-23 School Year Dates	2023-24 School Year Dates	2024-25 School Year Dates
Rosh Hashanah	Sunset Sunday, September 25- nightfall Tuesday, September 27	Sunset Friday, September 15- nightfall Sunday, September 17	Sunset Wednesday, October 2- nightfall Friday, October 4
Yom Kippur	Sunset Tuesday, October 4- nightfall Wednesday, October 5	Sunset Sunday, September 24- nightfall Monday, September 25	Sunset Friday, October 11- nightfall Saturday, October 12
Diwali	Monday, October 24	Sunday, November 12	Friday, November 1
Christmas	Sunday, December 25	Monday, December 25	Wednesday, December 25
Lunar New Year	Sunday, January 22	Saturday, February 10	Wednesday, January 29
Easter	Sunday, April 9	Sunday, March 31	Sunday, April 20
Eid al-Fitr*	TBD: Likely sunset Thursday, April 20- Friday, April 21 or sunset Friday, April 21-Saturday, April 22	TBD: Likely sunset Tuesday, April 9- Wednesday, April 10	TBD: Likely sunset Sunday, March 30- Monday, March 31
Eid al-Adha*	TBD: Likely sunset Wednesday, June 28-Thursday, June 29	TBD: Likely sunset Sunday, June 16- Monday, June 17	TBD: Likely sunset Friday, June 6- Saturday, June 7

\* Estimated dates due to the lunar calendar; dates are determined based on when the crescent moon is sighted in North America. Please check the calendar closer to the holiday.

You also can find a supplemental calendar of holidays and observances below; again, this list is not exhaustive and does not reflect all cultural and religious observances. Schools and teachers will be aware of these dates when scheduling events, tests and major projects. The calendar also will be shared with school PTOs and PTCs for event planning purposes.

## Supplemental Calendar of Holidays and Observances

Holiday	Observance Notes	2022-23 School Year Dates	2023-24 School Year Dates	2024-25 School Year Dates
Al Hijra*	Islamic New Year, cultural celebration	Evening Friday, July 29- evening Saturday, July 30	Evening Tuesday, July 18- evening Wednesday, July 19	Evening Sunday, July 7- evening Monday, July 8
Mid-autumn Festivals	Important holiday in the cultures of many East Asian countries; holidays include Moon or Mooncake Festival (China), Chuseok (Korea), Tsukimi (Japan), Tết Trung Thu (Vietnam).	Moon Festival: Saturday, September 10 Chuseok: Friday, September 9- Sunday, September 11 Tsukimi: Saturday, September 10- Tuesday, September 13 Tết Trung Thu: Nightfall Friday, September 9-Saturday, September 10	Moon Festival: Friday, September 29 Chuseok: Thursday, September 28- Saturday, September 30 Tsukimi: Friday, September 29- Monday, October 2 Tết Trung Thu: Nightfall Thursday, September 28-Friday, September 29	Moon Festival: Tuesday, September 17 Chuseok: Monday, September 16- Wednesday, September 18 Tsukimi: Tuesday, September 17- Friday, September 20 Tết Trung Thu: Nightfall Monday, September 16-Tuesday, September 17
Durga Puja (especially days 3-5)	Hindu festival	Monday, October 3- Wednesday, October 5	Sunday, October 22- Tuesday, October 24	Friday, October 11- Sunday, October 13
Dussehra	Hindu festival	Wednesday, October 5	Tuesday, October 24	Saturday, October 12
Sukkot	Jewish holiday	Sunset Sunday, October 9- nightfall Tuesday, October 11	Sunset Friday, September 29- nightfall Sunday, October 1	Sunset Wednesday, October 16- nightfall Friday, October 18
Shemini Atzeret	Jewish holiday	Sunset Sunday, October 16- nightfall Monday, October 17	Sunset Friday, October 6- nightfall Saturday, October 7	Sunset Wednesday, October 23- nightfall Thursday, October 24
Simchat Torah	Jewish holiday	Sunset Monday, October 17- nightfall Tuesday, October 18	Sunset Saturday, October 7- nightfall Sunday, October 8	Sunset Thursday, October 24- nightfall Friday, October 25
Five Days of Diwali	Hindu Festival of Lights	Monday, October 24- Friday, October 28	Sunday, November 12- Thursday, November 16	Thursday, October 31- Monday, November 4
Día de los Muertos/ Day of the Dead	Mexican cultural celebration	Evening Tuesday, November 1- evening Wednesday, November 2	Evening Wednesday, November 1- evening Thursday, November 2	Evening Friday, November 1- evening Saturday November 2

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Gurpurab	Sikh festival	Tuesday, November 8	Monday, November 27	Friday, November 15
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Mexican Catholic celebration	Monday, December 12	Tuesday, December 12	Thursday, December 12
Kwanzaa	African-American cultural celebration	Monday, December 26- Sunday, January 1	Tuesday, December 26- Monday, January 1	Thursday, December 26- Wednesday, January 1
Shōgatsu	Japanese cultural holiday; January 1 is the official New Year holiday. Celebrations may continue through the week, particularly the first three days.	Sunday, January 1- Tuesday, January 3	Monday, January 1- Wednesday, January 3	Wednesday, January 1- Friday, January 3
Three Kings Day	Christian holiday	Friday, January 6	Saturday, January 6	Monday, January 6
Pongal	Hindu harvest festival	Saturday, January 14- Tuesday, January 17	Monday, January 15- Thursday, January 18	Tuesday, January 14- Friday, January 17
Saraswati Puja	Hindu festival	Thursday, January 26	Wednesday, February 14	Sunday, February 2
Nowruz	Persian New Year	Tuesday, March 21	Thursday, March 21	Friday, March 21
Passover Seder	The Jewish Seder feast is held on the first two nights of Passover. <i>Recommended: Avoid scheduling important evening events, if possible.</i>	Evening of Wednesday, April 5 & evening of Thursday, April 6	Evening of Monday, April 22 & evening of Tuesday, April 23	Evening of Saturday, April 12 & evening of Sunday, April 13
Passover	Some Jewish families observe food restrictions. <i>Recommended: Avoid scheduling food-focused events, if possible.</i> Some students may be absent from school on the first day or first two days following the sunset start.	Sunset Wednesday, April 5- nightfall Thursday, April 13	Sunset Monday, April 22- nightfall Tuesday, April 30	Sunset Saturday, April 12- nightfall Sunday, April 20
Holi	Hindu festival	Wednesday, March 8	Monday, March 25	Friday, March 14
Ramadan*	During the Islamic holy month, some Muslim families fast from sunrise to sunset each day. <i>Recommended: Avoid scheduling physically rigorous or food-focused events, if possible. Avoid scheduling tests later in the day, if possible.</i>	Likely evening of Wednesday, March 22-Thursday, April 20	Likely evening of Sunday, March 10-Tuesday, April 9	Likely evening of Friday, February 28-Sunday, March 30
Holy Week, including Good Friday	Christian observance	Sunday, April 2- Saturday, April 8	Sunday, March 24- Saturday, March 30	Sunday, April 13- Saturday, April 19

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Holiday	Observance Notes	2022-23 School Year Dates	2023-24 School Year Dates	2024-25 School Year Dates
Vesak	Buddhist holiday	Friday, May 5	Thursday, May 23	Monday, May 12
Vaisakhi	Hindu & Sikh holiday	Friday, April 14	Saturday, April 13	Monday, April 14
Mother's Day (Mexico)	Mexican cultural celebration	Wednesday, May 10	Friday, May 10	Saturday, May 10
Shavuot	Jewish holiday	Sunset Thursday, May 25- nightfall Saturday, May 27	Sunset Tuesday, June 11- nightfall Thursday, June 13	Sunset Sunday, June 1- nightfall Tuesday, June 3
Juneteenth	District closed for state & federal holiday	Monday, June 19	Wednesday, June 19	Thursday, June 19