



Religious Expression Days and Accommodations

- I. Students in grades kindergarten through twelve are permitted to be absent for up to three (3) religious expression days each school year to take holidays for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system or to participate in organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or other religious or spiritual organization. Any such student will not be penalized academically for being absent in accordance with this policy. Students are also permitted to participate in interscholastic athletics or other extracurricular activities on days which the student was otherwise absent for a religious expression day.
- II. In the event an absence for a religious expression day conflicts with an examination or any other academic requirement scheduled on that date, students will be provided with alternative accommodations with regard to such examinations and other academic requirements if the parent or guardian of the student provides to the school principal written notice of up to three specific dates for which alternative accommodations are requested no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of school or fourteen (14) days after the date of enrollment for a student who transfers to or enrolls in the District after the first day of school.
- III. No more than three (3) written requests per school year by a student's parent or guardian for an excused absence will be approved by the school principal. Such requests will be approved without inquiry into the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system. However, the school principal may verify a written request by contacting the parent or guardian whose signature appears on the request. If a parent or guardian disputes having signed such a request, the school principal may deny the request. Upon approval of a request that satisfies the requirements outlined in this policy, if the approved student absence creates a conflict, the appropriate classroom teacher or teachers will schedule a time and date for an alternative examination or other academic requirement which may be before or after the time and date the examination or other academic requirement was originally scheduled.

The following list of holidays is non-exhaustive and may not be used to deny accommodation to a student for a holiday or festival of the student's faith or religious or spiritual belief system that does not appear on the list.

Rosh Hashanah	September 22-24, 2025
Yom Kippur	October 1-2, 2025
Diwali	October 20-21, 2025
Hanukkah	December 21-29, 2025
Ramadan	February 17-March 18, 2026
Ash Wednesday	February 18, 2026
Eid al-Fitr	March 19-20, 2026
Pesach (Passover)	April 1-9, 2026
Good Friday	April 3, 2026
Easter	April 5, 2026
Eid al-Adha	May 26-27, 2026



To request religious expression days and accommodations, To request religious expression days and accommodations, To request religious expression days and accommodations, parents/guardians must submit written requests to the Principal within fourteen days after the start of the school year or after the student is enrolled in school specifying the days to be approved.

[Board Policy 5200](#)

