2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Holidays and Observances

Introduction

The vision of Edina Public Schools is for each and every student to discover their possibilities and thrive. Our School District encompasses a diverse community that celebrates many different observances and holidays. In order to meet the vision and grow an inclusive and equitable school culture, we would like to acknowledge the holidays and observances that people believe to be important to them.

Please note that this is in no way an exhaustive list of all holidays or observances important to EPS families. If you know of some we may have missed, please let us know, and we will add those to the list. Email information updates to: Sayali.Amarapurkar@edinaschools.org

This list has been created to provide guidance for teachers and staff. Please be mindful of the days below as these occasions are observed by a significant number of staff, students, and families in our district. Absences around major observances may be greater than normal.

Our Goal

The goal for the holidays and observances calendar is to be aware and acknowledge differences, keep a curious mind, and learn how to be inclusive of each and every student.

Let's Focus on "Opening Doors"

- Avoid making assumptions that all students or staff who identify with a particular faith observe religious holidays, or that they observe them in the same way.
- Respect and support each student's decision to observe important holidays or religious practices in a way that is meaningful to them.
- Take the time to learn about the major holidays and observances your students participate in, so you can offer reasonable accommodations such as extensions on homework, major projects, or exams.
- Please note that a student's participation in religious observances may be contingent upon prior notification from their caregivers. In cases of uncertainty, it is advisable to communicate directly with the parent or guardian for confirmation.

Holidays and Observances for the 2026-27 School Year

Key		
No Student Days	Faith Observances	***National Holidays**

Date	Day	Faith: Description of the observance	Holiday/Observance
8/25 - 8/26/26	Tue-Wed	Islam: the Birthday of Muhammad	Mawlid aka Eid Milad Birthday of the Prophet: Mawlid al-Nabi | The Pluralism Project
8/31 to 09/1/26	Mon- Tue	No Students - elementary	Check and Connect Day
***9/7/26**	**Mon**	**(District Holiday)**	**Labor Day**
9/8 to 9/15/26	Tue-Tue	Jainism: A festival about forgiveness that is the faith's most important religious observance.	Paryushana Jain Festivals and Celebrations 2025: A Complete Guide- India's Biggest Dashakarma Bhandar | Poojn.in.
09/11 – 09/13/26	Fri-Sun	Judaism: the Jewish New Year, a time for reflection in the faith.	Rosh Hashanah (No work is permitted) Rosh Hashanah 2026 - The Jewish New Year - Chabad.org

9/14/26	Mon	Hinduism: First day of the 10-day Ganesh festival marking the birth of the deity Ganesha, the god of prosperity and wisdom	Ganesh Chaturthi (Some people fast) Ganesha Chaturthi: the day to celebrate Ganesha's birth - Hindu American Foundation
***9/15/26 - 10/15/26**	**Tue-Thu**	**Honors the culture & contributions of both Hispanic and Latin Americans**	**National Hispanic Heritage Month Hispanic Heritage Month Resources | National Museum of the American Latino**
9/20 - 9/21/26	Sun-Mon	Judaism: Yom Kippur. This is the holiest day of the year in the Jewish faith. The central themes of Yom Kippur are atonement and repentance	Yom Kippur A Day of Fasting. (No work is permitted) Yom Kippur 2025 - The Day of Atonement - Chabad.org
09/21/26	Mon	(No Students)	Professional Dev Day
9/25 to 10/2/26	Fri-Fri	Judaism:A week long holiday in the Jewish faith that celebrates when the Jews journeyed out of Egypt in huts (sukkah).	Sukkot Sukkot - Chabad.org (No work is permitted on first few days)
10/3- 10/4/26	Sat-Sun	Judaism: Celebrating the completion of and immediate beginning of the annual Torah reading cycle	Simchat Torah Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah - Chabad.org (No work is permitted)
10/11–10/20/26	Sun-Tue	Hinduism: (First Day of) *Sharad Navaratri, an annual Hindu festival observed in the honor of the goddess Durga. It spans over nine nights.	Sharad Navaratri What is Navaratri | Hindu Life at Yale

***10/12/26**	**Mon**	**According MN State Statute: On Indigenous Peoples' Day, at least one hour of the school program must be devoted to observance of the day. As part of its observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day, a district may provide professional development to teachers and staff, or instruction to students**	**Indigenous Peoples' Day : Celebrated on the second Monday in October every year. 5 things to know about Indigenous Peoples Day | PBS News.**
10/15–10/16/26	Thu-Fri	(No Students)	Education MN Convention
10/20/26	Tue	Hinduism, Jainism: Dussehra, also known as Vijayadashami or "the day of victory,"is the tenth day after the nine nights of Navratri.	Dussehra Dussehra or Vijayadashmi - Why Do We Celebrate It?
10/15–10/16/26	Thu-Fri	(No Students)	Education MN Convention
***11/1/- 11/30/26**	**Sun-Mon**	**Celebrates the culture and heritage of Native American individuals/families**	**National Native American Heritage Month 8 Ways to Celebrate Native American Heritage Month - Boys & Girls Clubs of America**
11/1/26	Sun	Christianity: A commemoration day for all Christian saints. It is a public holiday in over 50 countries.	All Saints Day celebrated every year on Nov 1st All Saints' Day around the world in 2026 | Office Holidays
11/2/26	Mon	Mexican celebration: a traditional Mexican holiday. On this day, it is believed that the souls of	Day of the Dead or Día de los Muertos Day of the Dead in Mexico in 2025 |

		the dead return to visit their living family members.	Office Holidays
11/3/26	Tue	(No Students)	Election Day Professional Development Day/Conferences
11/6 - 11/10/26 (Main day is 11/8/26)	Fri-Tue	Jainism, Sikhism, Hinduism: A 5-day festival of lights that combines several different festivals in honor of gods, goddesses, harvests, new year's, etc.	Diwali HAF's Diwali Toolkit - Hindu American Foundation
11/10/26	Tue	Baha'i:A day honoring the birthday of God's messenger in the Ba ha'i faith.	Birth of the Báb The Birth of the Bab | Baha'i Blog Baha'i Calendar
***11/11/26**	**Wed**		**Veterans Day The Origins of Veterans Day National WWI Museum and Memorial.**
11/11/26	Wed	Baha'i: One of the nine holy days in the Baha'i faith that honors the birthday of one of the co-founders.	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh Bahá'ís suspend work and school on these Holy Days. Baha'i Holidays and Observances - Holidays and Cultural Observances - LibGuides at Arizona State University
11/25/26	Wed	(No Students)	Teacher Comp for Evening Conferences

***11/26 - 11/27/26**	**Thu-Fri**	**District Holiday (Buildings Closed)**	**Thanksgiving Break**
12/4 - 12/12/26	Fri-Sat	Judaism: 8-day, wintertime "festival of lights,"celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting	Chanukah Hanukkah - Chanukah 2025

12/07/26	Mon	Latin American Christian Holiday, Takes place on Dec 7th every year	Day of the (Little)12 Candles Spectacular Little Candles Day in Colombia
12/16 - 12/24/26	Wed-Thu	Christianity: religious festival in Mexico and some parts of the U.S. (primarily those with Mexican-Americans)	Las Posadas (Mexican) LAS POSADAS - December 16-24, 2026 - National Today
12/21/26 -1/1/27	Mon-Fri	(No Students)	Winter Break
12/24-12/25/26	Thu-Fri	Christianity: celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.	Christmas (Buildings Closed)
12/26/26 - 1/1/27	Sat-Fri	African American Holiday– 8-day holiday inspired by African harvest celebrations. It is observed from December 26th to January 1st each year, culminating in a festive gathering known as the Karamu Ya Imani (Feast of Faith)	Kwanzaa Official Kwanzaa Website
***1/1/27**	**Fri**	**(District Holiday)**	**New Year's Day**
01/15/27	Fri	Hinduism: a harvest festival marking the arrival of Spring.	Makar Sankranti Lohri, Makar Sankranti, and Pongal: India's winter harvest festivals - Hindu American Foundation Makar Sankranti: Reaping the Benefits of the Season

***1/18/27**	**Mon**	**(District Holiday) National Holiday**	**Martin Luther King, Jr Day**
1/22/27	Fri	(No Students)	Teacher Data Day

***2/1 - 2/28/27**	**Mon-Sun**	**Celebrates the culture and heritage of African American individuals/families**	**Black History Month Black History Month: Facts, Origins & Quotes**
2/6/27	Sat	Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism: a celebration of the arrival of spring and the beginning of a new year on the lunisolar calendar. It is the most important holiday in China, and it is also widely celebrated in South Korea, Vietnam, and countries with a significant overseas Chinese population.	Lunar New Year Lunar New Year Traditions and Superstitions, Explained
2/7 - 3/8/27	Sun-Mon	Islam:Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, which is spent by Muslims fasting from dawn to sunset, and with extra prayers.	Ramadan 9 Ways To Support Students During Ramadan
2/10/27	Wed	Christianity Also known as first day of Lent	Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday | Christianity, Definition, History, Meaning, & Facts -Britannica
***2/15/27**	**Mon**	**National Holiday/ Day of Service (District Holiday)**	**Presidents Day Holiday**
2/16/27	Tue	(No Students	Professional Dev Day
2/26 - 3/1/27	Fri-Mon	Baha'i: is a period of celebration devoted to charity, gift-giving and festivities prior to the annual period of fasting.	Ayyám-i-Há An Introduction to Ayyam-i-Ha | Baha'i Blog
3/2 - 3/20/27	Tue-Sat	Bahá'í: The month of fasting, during which Bahá'ís from the age of 15 abstain from food and drink between sunrise and sunset.)	Bahá'í Fast Fasting | Devotion |The Life of the Spirit | What Bahá'ís Believe

3/9 - 3/10/27	Tue-Wed	Islam: marks the end of Ramadan (month long fasting) and the beginning of a feast that breaks the fast. fasting) and the beginning of a feast that breaks the fast.	Eid al-Fitr Learning About Eid al-Fitr & Eid al-Adha | WeTeachNYC
3/12/27	Fri	(No Students)	Professional Development Day/Conferences or Teacher Comp for Evening Conferences*
03/20/2027	Sat	Persian, Baha'i: New Year's day according to Persian calendar and marks the beginning of Spring	Naw-Ruz Nowruz 2026 - Iranian New Year 2026 - SURFIRAN
3/22 - 3/23/27	Mon-Tue	Judaism: Celebration of the deliverance of the Jewish people in Persia and the bravery of Queen Esther and her Uncle Mordechai.	Purim Purim - Chabad.org
3/22 - 3/23/27	Mon-Tue	Hinduism: Holi is a two day festival in the Spring	Holi/Festival of Colors Holi hai! - Hindu American Foundation
3/25/27	Thu	Christianity	Holy Thursday Maundy Thursday around the world in 2026 | Office Holidays
3/26/27	Fri	Christianity	Good Friday The Origins and Practices of Holidays: Good Friday | Boston Public Library.
3/29 – 4/2/27	Mon-Fri	(No students)	Spring break

3/28/27	Sun	Christianity	Easter What is Easter? | History, Meaning, Traditions | Twinkl USA
4/20 - 4/21/27	Tue-Wed	Bahá'í: Ridván is a twelve-day long festival in the Baha'i faith, (in 2027, it runs 4/20 - 5/2/27)	1st day of Ridván FESTIVAL OF RIDVAN - National Today.
4/21 - 4/29/27	Wed-Thu	Judaism: celebrates the exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt and liberation from slavery.	Passover No work permitted on some days Passover (Pesach) - Festival of Liberation - Chabad.org
4/30/27	Fri	(No students)	Professional Dev Day
***5/1 - 5/31/27**	**Sat-Mon**	**Celebrates the culture and heritage of Asian American individuals/families**	**National AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) Heritage Month Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**
5/1 - 5/2/	Sat-Sun	Bahá'í	12th day of Ridván What Happened on the 12th Day of Ridvan? | Baha'i Blog

5/16 - 5/17/27	Sun-Mon	Islam: Eid al-Adha is the second of two major holidays observed by Muslims across the world. It is celebrated over 4 days & coincides with the last day of Hajj.	*Eid-Al-Adha What is Eid Al-Adha? | The Feast of Sacrifi27 ce - T winkl
5/20/27	Thu	Buddhism	*Birth of Gautam Buddha

5/24/27	Mon	Bahá'í	Declaration of the Báb The Declaration of the Bab | Baha'i Blog
***5/31/27**	**Mon**	**National holiday**	**Memorial Day Holiday - (Buildings Closed)**
6/10 - 6/12/27	Thu-Sat	Judaism	Shavuot What Is Shavuot (Shavuos)? - Chabad.org
***6/18/27**	**Fri**	**National Holiday (District's observance of the 6/19/27 National Holiday.)**	**Juneteenth Holiday– District Holiday (Buildings Closed)**