

Diversity Calendar

2010/2011

Diversity Calendar Mission Statement

The purpose of this calendar is to address and support the diversity of students, staff and families. We recognize that by increasing our understanding of diverse cultures, their group experiences, traditions, values and beliefs we can enhance our relationships with one another and hence, become a culturally responsive environment 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 be absent as a result of this day?
2. Might a student or staff 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, parent, family, or staff 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 Valentines Day. There are students, families and staff who can not participate in district/school events that are scheduled on the day of an important religious day observed by the Jewish and Muslim communities).
4. Does the day provide opportunity for a teachable moment regarding ethnic or cultural diversity that might not otherwise be discussed, particularly those 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 any important dates that apply to the four criteria. This was an enormous task handled 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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Diversity Calendar Committee Members:

- Caprice Hollins, Director of Equity and Race Relations
- Hung Pham, Bilingual & Community Liaison
- Shelly Rosen, SPS Parent
- Carl Shuttoff, Instructional Technology Resource Teacher

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September 2010			
Hispanic Heritage Month			
8*	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/index.html	Jewish
8-9*	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	http://www.islamicity.com/ramadan/Eid_default.shtml	Islamic
11	Enkutatash (New Year)	http://www.rastaites.com/Ethiopia/newyear.htm	Ethiopian
16	Mexican Independence Day	http://www.inside-mexico.com/featureindep.htm	Mexican
18*	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/index.html	Jewish
22	Tet Trung Thu (Vietnam) Moon Festival (Hong Kong, China, Taiwan) Chu-Sok (Korea)	http://www.familyculture.com/holidays/tettrungthu.htm http://www.adoptvietnam.org/vietnamese/tet-links.html http://www.regit.com/hongkong/festival/mooncake.htm http://www.pbs.org/hiddenkorea/chusok.htm	Vietnam, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Korea
22*	Sukkot	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday5.htm	Jewish
23	Mabon	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mabon_%28Wicca%29#Mabon	Pagan
30*	Simchat Torah	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
October 2010			
Cultural Diversity Month/Coming Out Month/Filipino American History Month			
1*	Shemini Atzeret	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
11	National Coming Out Day	http://www.hrc.org/issues/coming_out.asp	LGBTQ and allies
12	Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day	http://www.homemadejam.org/rethinking-columbus.html	European American
12	Dia de la Raza	http://www.lasculturas.com/aa/aa100800a.php	Latin America, Mexican
20*	Birth of the Báb	http://bahai.org/	Bahá'i
31	Halloween	http://www.history.com/topics/halloween <i>Keep in mind that not all families view Halloween positively</i>	USA
31	Samhain	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usaz&c=holidays&id=12905	Pagan
November 2010			
Native American Heritage Month			
1	All Saint's Day	http://www.churchyear.net/allsaints.html	Anglican & Roman Catholic
1 & 2	Dia de los Muertos	http://www.azcentral.com/ent/dead/	Mexican
5	Diwali	http://hinduism.about.com/od/diwalifestivaloflights/a/diwali.htm	Hindu, Jain, Sikh and Buddhist.
11	Veterans Day	http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/	USA
12*	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	http://bahai.org/	Bahá'i
17	Eid ul Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	http://www.religioustolerance.org/isl_feast.htm	Islamic
26	Thanksgiving	http://www.oyate.org/resources/shortthanks.html	European American

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		Keep in mind that not all students view Thanksgiving positively	
December 2010			
1-9*	Hanukkah	http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/default_cdo/jewish/Chanukah.htm	Jewish
6*	Al-Hijra (Muharram)	http://www.islam.com/MFMuharam.htm	Islamic
8	Bodhi Day	http://www.doityourself.com/stry/bodhi-day	Buddhist
8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/beliefs/immaculateconception.shtml	Catholic
12	Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe	http://www.inside-mexico.com/guadalupe.htm One of the most important dates in the Mexican Calendar	Mexican Catholic Tradition
16	Simbang Gabi (Christmas)	http://www.filipinocatholicministry.org/simbang_gabi.html	Filipino Catholic Tradition
16-24	Las Posadas	http://www.mexconnect.com/articles/2816-las-posadas	Mexican Tradition
21	Winter Solstice/Yule	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheel_of_the_Year	Pagan
25	Christmas	http://www.history.com/minisites/christmas/	Christian
26- Jan 1	Kwanzaa	http://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org/index.shtml	African American
January 2011			
1	New Years Day	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Year's_Day	World Wide
6	Dia le los Reyes (Three Kings Day/Epiphany)	http://www.inside-mexico.com/ReyesMagos.htm	Mexican
17	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	http://www.mlkday.gov/	USA
February 2011 African American History Month			
Feb & March	Lenten Season	http://wilstar.com/holidays/lent.htm Many Filipino families return to the Philippines during this time	Christian
1	Imbolc	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imbolc	Pagan
3	Lunar New Year (Year of the Rabbit)	http://www.asianamericanbooks.com/Iny_ch_a.htm#general	China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Singapore, Korea
14	Valentine's Day	http://www.history.com/minisites/valentine/ Be mindful that not all of our students celebrate Valentine's Day	International
19	Day of Remembrance	http://www.imdiversity.com/villages/asian/history_heritage/DOR_Landing.asp	USA
21	President's Day Holiday	http://usparks.about.com/library/weekly/aa021499.htm	USA

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March 2011 Women's History Month			
7	Orthodox Lent	http://www.goarch.org/en/ourfaith/pascha/	Christian
8	Internatn'l Women's Day	http://www.internationalwomensday.com/	International
9	Ash Wednesday	http://christianity.about.com/od/holidaytips/qt/whatisashwednes.htm	Christian
17	St. Patrick's Day	http://www.history.com/minisites/stpatricksday/ http://www.irishclub.org/irwk.htm	Irish
20	Persian New Year Nowruz	http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/03/0317_050317_nowruz.html http://www.funsocialstudies.learninghaven.com/edu/naw-ruz.html	Iranian Bahá'i
21	International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination	http://www.hrea.org/index.php?doc_id=975	International
21	Ostara	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usnc&c=holidays&id=13389	Pagan
31	César Chávez Day	http://www.ufw.org/page.php?menu=research&inc=history/07.html	USA
April 2011			
6	National Tartan Day	http://www.tartanday.org/	Scottish American
12	Vaisakhi (Sikh New Year)	http://www.sgpc.net/festivals/festival.asp	Sikh
15	Pimai (New Year)	http://goseasia.about.com/od/laos/a/bun_pi_mai.htm Begins on the first full moon in April	Laotian
15	National Day of Silence	http://www.dayofsilence.org/index.cfm	LGBTQ and Allies
-Apr.16- 23	Holy Week	http://www.crivoice.org/cyholyweek.html	Christian
17	Palm Sunday	http://www3.kumc.edu/diversity/ethnic_relig/palm_wc.html	Christian/Orthodox
19*	Pesach/Passover (begins)	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidaya.htm	Jewish
21*	First Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.org/encyclopedia/ridvan.html	Bahá'i
22	Good Friday	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_Friday	Christian/Orthodox
24	Easter Sunday	http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/easter-sunday	Christian
24	Orthodox Easter	http://www.factmonster.com/spot/easter1.html	Eastern Orthodox
29*	Ninth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.org/encyclopedia/ridvan.html	Bahá'i
30*	Holocaust Remembrance Day	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/yomhashoah.html	International
May 2011 Asian American and South Pacific Islander Heritage Month			
1	May Day (Internatn'l Worker's Day)	http://www.iww.org/projects/mayday/origins.shtml	International

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1	Beltane	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beltane	Pagan
2*	Twelfth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.org/encyclopedia/ridvan.html	Bahá'i
5	Cinco de Mayo	http://www.mexonline.com/cinco.htm	USA/Mexican
10	Mother's Day	http://www.mothersdaycelebration.com/mothers-day-mexico.html Mother's Day (always May 10 th in Mexico) is a huge deal for Mexican families.	Mexican
21	Vesak	http://www.buddhanet.net/vesak.htm	Buddhist
23*	Declaration of the Báb	http://bahai.org/	Bahá'i
29*	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art31523.asp	Bahá'i
30	Memorial Day Holiday	http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyseneca/memorial.htm	USA
June 2011			
8-9*	Shavuot	http://www.holidays.net/shavuot/	Jewish
12	Pentecost	http://www.stpaulskingsville.org/pentecost.htm	Christian
12	Philippine Independence Day	http://www.msc.edu.ph/centennial/independence.html	Filipino
19	Juneteenth	http://www.juneteenth.com/	African American
21	Summer Solstice	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usnc&c=holidays&id=13389	Pagan
July 2011			
13-15	Obon (Also in August)	http://www.buddhistchurch.com/events/Obon.htm	Japanese Buddhist

* These holy days begin at sunset and go to sunset of the following day.

Muslim holidays are based on actual sighting of the moon and therefore the day may vary.