

Diversity Calendar

2011/2012

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 member be absent as a result of this day?
2. Might a student or staff member 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, family, or staff member 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 evening 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 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.

Acknowledgements

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Special Thanks:

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- Ilsa Govan, Equity & Race Specialist
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- Keisha Scarlett, STAR Consultant

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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Notes: Starred () holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day.*

Due to regional and cultural differences, the holidays listed may be celebrated on different dates by individuals of the same faith.

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

September 2011

Hispanic Heritage Month

1	Ganesh Chaturthi	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ganesh_Chaturthi	Hindu
2-10	Paryushana Parva	http://www.cs.colostate.edu/~malaiya/paryushan.html	Jain
11	Enkutatash (New Year)	http://www.rastaites.com/Ethiopia/newyear.htm	Ethiopian
16	Mexican Independence Day	http://www.inside-mexico.com/featureindep.htm	Mexican
12	Tet Trung Thu (Vietnam) Moon Festival (Hong Kong, China, Taiwan) Chu-Sok (Korea)	http://www.familyculture.com/holidays/tettrungthu.htm http://www.regit.com/hongkong/festival/mooncake.htm http://www.pbs.org/hiddenkorea/chusok.htm	Vietnam, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Korea
23	Mabon	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mabon_%28Wicca%29#Mabon	Neo-Pagan
28-30*	Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday2.htm	Jewish

October 2011

Cultural Diversity Month/Coming Out Month/Filipino American History Month

7-8*	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/holiday4.html	Jewish
11	National Coming Out Day	http://www.hrc.org/ncod/	LGBTQ and allies
10	Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day	http://www.homemadejam.org/rethinking-columbus.html	European American
12	Día de la Raza	http://www.lasculturas.com/aa/aa100800a.php	Latin America, Mexican
12*	Sukkot	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday5.htm	Jewish
19*	Shemini Atzeret	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
20*	Simchat Torah	http://www.jewfaq.org/holiday6.htm	Jewish
20*	Birth of the Báb	http://www.planetbahi.org/cgi-bin/articles.pl?article=16	Bahá'i
26	Diwali	http://hinduism.about.com/od/diwalifestivaloflights/a/diwali.htm	Hindu, Jain, Sikh and Buddhist.
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	Neo-Pagan

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November 2011			
Native American Heritage Month			
1	All Saint's Day	http://www.churchyear.net/allsaints.html	Anglican & Roman Catholic
1 & 2	Día de los Muertos	http://www.azcentral.com/ent/dead/	Mexican
4-7	Hajj	http://www.ing.org/speakers/subpage.asp?num=23&pagenum=4	Islamic
6-9	Eid ul Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	http://www.religioustolerance.org/isl_feast.htm	Islamic
11	Veterans Day	http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/	USA
11*	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	http://bahai.org/	Bahá'i
24	Thanksgiving	http://www.oyate.org/resources/shortthanks.html <i>Keep in mind that not all families view Thanksgiving positively.</i>	European American
26	Al-Hijra (Muharram)	http://www.islam.com/MFMuharam.htm	Islamic
December 2011			
5	Ashura	http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/holidays/ashura.htm	Islamic
8	Bodhi Day	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/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	Mexican Catholic Tradition
15	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
20-28*	Hanukkah	http://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/default_cdo/jewish/Chanukah.htm	Jewish
22	Winter Solstice/Yule	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheel_of_the_Year	Neo-Pagan
25	Christmas	http://www.history.com/minisites/christmas/	Christian
26- Jan 1	Kwanzaa	http://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org/index.shtml	African American
January 2012			
1	New Years Day	http://new-years-day.com/new-years-history.htm	International
6	Día le los Reyes (Three Kings Day/Epiphany)	http://www.inside-mexico.com/ReyesMagos.htm	Mexican Christian
16	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	http://www.mlkday.gov/	USA

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	Day		
23	Lunar New Year (Year of the Dragon)	http://www.asianamericanbooks.com/lny_ch_a.htm#general	China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Singapore, Korea
February 2012 African American History Month			
1 or 2	Imbolc(g)	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imbolc	Neo-Pagan
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.historylink.org/index.cfm?displaypage=output.cfm&file_id=9464	USA
Feb 22- April 7	Lenten Season	http://wilstar.com/holidays/lent.htm Many Filipino families return to the Philippines during this time.	Christian
20	President's Day Holiday	http://usparks.about.com/library/weekly/aa021499.htm	USA
22	Ash Wednesday	http://christianity.about.com/od/holidaytips/qt/whatisashwednes.htm	Christian
27	Orthodox Lent	http://www.goarch.org/en/ourfaith/pascha/	Orthodox Christian
March 2012 Women's History Month			
8	Internatn'l Women's Day	http://www.internationalwomensday.com/	International
17	St. Patrick's Day	http://www.history.com/minisites/spatricksday/ http://www.irishclub.org/irwk.htm	Irish
19	Persian New Year	http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/03/0317_050317_nowruz.html	Iranian
20	Ostara	http://www.witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usma&c=holidays&id=1991	Neo-Pagan
21	Nowruz	http://www.funsocialstudies.learninghaven.com/edu/naw-ruz.html	Bahá'i
21	International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination	http://www.hrea.org/index.php?doc_id=975	International
31	César Chávez Day	http://www.ufw.org/_page.php?menu=research&inc=history/07.html	USA
April 2012			
1	Palm Sunday	http://www3.kumc.edu/diversity/ethnic_relig/palm_wc.html	Christian/Orthodox
1-7	Holy Week	http://www.crivoice.org/cyholyweek.html	Christian
6	Good Friday	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_Friday	Christian/Orthodox
6*	Pesach/Passover (begins)	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidaya.htm	Jewish
6	National Tartan Day	http://www.tartanday.org/	Scottish American

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8	Easter Sunday	http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/easter-sunday	Christian
14	Vaisakhi	http://www.sikhiwiki.org/index.php?title=Vaisakhi	Sikh
14-16	Bun Pi Mai (New Year)	http://goseasia.about.com/od/laos/a/bun_pi_mai.htm <i>Begins on the first full moon in April</i>	Laotian
15	Orthodox Easter	http://www.factmonster.com/spot/easter1.html	Eastern Orthodox
18*	Holocaust Remembrance Day	http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/yomhashoah.html	International
20	National Day of Silence	http://www.dayofsilence.org/index.cfm	LGBTQ and Allies
20*	First Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.org/encyclopedia/ridvan.html	Bahá'i
29*	Ninth Day of Ridván	http://bahai-library.org/encyclopedia/ridvan.html	Bahá'i
30*	Beltane	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beltane	Neo-Pagan
May 2012			
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
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.bajainsider.com/baja-life/holidays/mothersdaymexico.html <i>Mother's Day (always May 10th in Mexico) is very important for Mexican families.</i>	Mexican
23*	Declaration of the Báb	http://www.planetbahai.org/cgi-bin/articles.pl?article=37	Bahá'i
26*	Shavuot	http://www.holidays.net/shavuot/	Jewish
27	Pentecost	http://www.stpaulskingsville.org/pentecost.htm	Christian
28	Vesak	http://www.buddhanet.net/vesak.htm	Buddhist
28	Memorial Day Holiday	http://www.rootsweb.com/~nyseneca/memorial.htm	USA
29*	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art31523.asp	Bahá'i
June 2012			
12	Philippine Independence Day	http://www.msc.edu.ph/centennial/independence.html	Filipino
12	Loving Day	http://www.lovingday.org/	USA
19	Juneteenth	http://www.juneteenth.com/	African American
20	Summer Solstice/Litha	http://www.wicca-spirituality.com/summer-solstice.html	Neo-Pagan

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July 2012

3	Dharma Day	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/buddhism/holydays/dharma.shtml	Buddhist
8	17th Tammuz	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventeenth_of_Tammuz	Jewish
13-15	Obon (Also in August)	http://www.buddhistchurch.com/events/Obon.htm	Japanese Buddhist
21	Ramadan	http://www.colostate.edu/orgs/MSA/events/Ramadan.html	Islamic
23	Birthday of Haile Selassie	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haile_Selassie_I	Rastafarian
29	Tisha B'Av	http://www.jewfaq.org/holidayd.htm	Jewish

August 2012

1	Lughnasadh (Lammas)	http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/paganism/holydays/lughnasadh.shtml	Neo-Pagan
10	Krishna Jayanti	http://www.sanatan.org/en/campaigns/KJ/aboutkj.htm	Hindu and Sikh
12	International Youth Day	http://social.un.org/index/Youth/WhoWeAre/InternationalYouthDay.aspx	International
13-15	Obon (Also in July)	http://www.buddhistchurch.com/events/Obon.htm	Japanese Buddhist
19	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)	http://www.islamicity.com/ramadan/Eid_default.shtml	

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