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REVISED POLICY - VOL. 17, NO. 2

5225 - ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

It is the policy of the School Board that absences from school for observance of a religious holiday or because the tenets of a student's religion forbid secular activity during a school day or portion thereof shall be excused subject to compliance with this policy.

The Superintendent will maintain a list of religious holidays for which student absence will be excused.

~~The following religious holidays for the 2017-20182016-2017 school year for which student absence will be excused:~~

~~A. July~~

- ~~1. July 2nd—Laylat as-Qadr (Islam)*~~
- ~~2. July 7th-9th—Eid al-Fitr (Islam)*~~
- ~~3. July 9th—~~
 - ~~a. Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha'i)~~
 - ~~b. Asalha-Puja-Day (Buddhist)~~
- ~~4. July 11th~~
 - ~~a. St. Benedict Day (Catholic Christian)~~
 - ~~b. All Saints (Orthodox Christian)~~
- ~~5. July 13th—Ulambana—Obon (Buddhist)~~
- ~~6. July 13th—15th—Obon (Shinto)~~
- ~~7. July 15th—St. Vladimir the Great Day (Orthodox Christian)~~
- ~~8. July 23rd—Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zarathushtra) (Zoroastrian)~~
- ~~9. July 24th—Pioneer Day (Mormon Christian)~~
- ~~10. July 25th—St. James the Great Day (Christian)~~
- ~~11. July 19th~~
 - ~~a. Asalha-Puja-Day (Buddhist)~~
 - ~~b. Guru Purnima (Hindu)*~~

~~B. August~~

- ~~1. August 1st~~

- a. Fast in Honor of the Holy Mother of Lord Jesus (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
 - b. Lammas (Christian and Wicca)
 - c. Lughnassad—Imbolc (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))
 - d. Tish'a-B'av (Jewish)
2. August 6th—Transfiguration of the Lord (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
 3. August 7th—Raksha-Bandhan/Naga-Panchami (Hindu)*
 4. August 14th—Tish'a-B'Av (Jewish)
 5. August 16th—Ulambana/Obon (Buddhist)
 6. August 18th—Raksha-Bandhan (Hindu)*
 7. August 15th/25th—
 - a. Krishna-Janmashtami (Hindu)*
 - b. Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (Catholic Christian)
 - c. Dormition of the Theotokos (Orthodox Christian)
 8. August 26th—September 4th—Paryushana Parva (Jain)
 9. August 29th—Beheading of St. John the Baptist (Christian)
 10. August 31st—Waqf al-Arafa—Hajj Day (Islam)

C. September

1. September 1st—Religious year/Ecclesiastical Year begins (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
2. September 1st—4th—Eid al-Adha (Islam)/5th—Ganesha Chaturthi (Hindu)*
3. September 7th—His Holiness Sakya Trizin's Birthday (Buddhist)
4. September 8th—Nativity of Virgin Mary (Christian)
 - a. Nativity of Mary (Christian)
 - b. Nativity of the Theotokos (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
5. September 10th—Hajj Day (Islam)*
6. September 11th–14th—Eid al-Adha (Islam)*
7. September 14th—Elevation of the Life-Giving Cross (Holy Cross) (Christian)
 - a. Onam (Hindu)*
 - b. The Elevation of the Holy Cross (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
8. September 21st—22nd
 - a. Rosh Hashana (Jewish)
 - b. New Year—Hijra (Islam)
9. September 21st—29th—Navaratri (Hindu)
10. September 22nd
 - a. Mabon (Wicca/Pagan (northern hemisphere))
 - b. Ostara (Wicca/Pagan (southern hemisphere))
11. September 25th—Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)

12. September 27th—Meskel (Ethiopian-Christian)
13. September 29th—Michael and All Angels (Christian)
14. September 30th

- a. Yom Kippur (Jewish)
- b. Dasara (Hindu)

D. October

1. October 1st—Ashura (Islam)—10th—Navaratri (Hindu)*
2. October 4th3rd—Feast of Trumpets (Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
 - a. St. Francis Day (Catholic-Christian)
 - b. Blessing of the Animals (Christian)
3. October 5th—11th—Sukkot (Jewish)3rd-4th—Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
4. October 9th—Thanksgiving—Canada (Interfaith)11th—Dussehra (Hindu)*
5. October 12th—Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)
 - a. Yom Kippur (Jewish)
 - b. Day of Atonement (Christian, Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
6. October 13th—Simchat Torah (Jewish)17th-23rd
 - a. Sukkot (Jewish)
 - b. Feast of Tabernacles (Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
7. October 18th—St. Luke, Apostle & Evangelist (Christian)20th
 - a. Birth of B'ab (Baha'i)
 - b. Installation of the Scripture of Guru Granth (Sikh)
8. October 24th
 - a. Last Great Day (Church of God, Philadelphia Church of God)
 - b. Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)
9. October 25th—Simcat Torah (Jewish)
10. October 19th30th—Diwali—Deepavali (Hindu, Jain, and Sikh)*
11. October 20th31st—Goverdhan Puja (Hindu)*
 - a. Birth of Báb (Baha'i)
 - b. Installation of Scriptures of Guru Granth (Sikh)
 - c. Jain New Year (Jain)
12. —ends Dec. 24th (Eastern Orthodox-Christian)
13. November 23rd—Thanksgiving (Interfaith USA)21st—The Presentation of the Theotokos to the Temple (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
14. November 24th—Guru Tegh Bahadur Martyrdom (Sikh)
15. November 26th—
 - a. Day of Covenant (Baha'i)
 - b. Christ the King (Christian)

- 16. ~~November 27th—First Sunday of Advent (Christian)~~
- 17. ~~November 28th—Ascension of 'Abdu'l Baha (Baha'i)~~
- 18. ~~November 30th—St. Andrew's Day (Christian)~~

E. ~~December~~

- 1. ~~December 1st—Mawlid an Nabi (Islam)~~
- 2. ~~December 3rd—24th—Advent (Christian)~~
- 3. ~~December 6th—Saint Nicholas Day (Christian)~~
- 4. ~~December 8th~~
 - a. ~~Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) (Buddhist)~~
 - b. ~~Immaculate Conception of Mary (Catholic Christian)~~
- 5. ~~December 14th—Mawlid an Nabi (Islam)*~~
- 6. ~~December 12th—Feast day—Our Lady of Guadalupe (Catholic Christian)~~
- 7. ~~December 13th—20th—Hanukkah (Jewish)~~
- 8. ~~December 16th—25th—Posadas Navidenas (Hispanic Christian)~~
- 9. ~~December 21st—~~
 - a. ~~Yule (Wicca/Pagan (nothern hemisphere) and Christian)~~
 - b. ~~Litha (Wicca/Pagan (southern hemisphere))~~
- 10. ~~December 24th—Christmas Eve (Christian)~~
- 11. ~~December 25th~~
 - a. ~~Christmas (Christian)~~
 - b. ~~Feast of the The Nativity of Christ (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~
- 12. ~~December 25th-January 1st—Hanukkah (Jewish)~~
- 13. ~~December 26th—~~
 - a. ~~Zarathosht DisoDay (Death of Prophet Zarathushtra) (Zoroastrian)~~
 - b. ~~St. Stephen's Day (Christian)~~
- 14. ~~December 28th—Holy Innocents (Christian)~~
- 15. ~~December 31st~~
 - a. ~~Watch Night (Christian)~~
 - b. ~~Holy Family (Catholic Christian)~~

F. ~~January~~

- 1. ~~January 1st—~~
 - a. ~~Gantan-sai (Shinto)~~
 - b. ~~Mary, Mother of God (Catholic Christian)~~
 - c. ~~Feast Day of St. Basil (Orthodox Christian)~~
 - d. ~~Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 2. ~~January 2nd—4th—Mahayana New Year (Buddhist) 1st-8th—Holy Convocation (Church of God and Saints of Christ)~~
- 3. ~~January 5th—~~

a. ~~Birthday of Guru Gobindh Singh Sahib (Sikh)~~

b. ~~Twelfth Night (Christian)~~

4. ~~January 6th~~

a. ~~Feast of Epiphany (Christian)~~

b. ~~Feast of the Ephiphany (Theophany) (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

c. ~~Nativity of Christ (Armenian Orthodox)~~

d. ~~Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day) (Christian)~~

5. ~~January 7th~~

a. ~~Feast of the Nativity (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

b. ~~Baptism of the Lord Jesus (Christian)~~

6. ~~January 13th — Maghi (Sikh)~~

7. ~~January 17th — Blessing of the Animals (Hispanic Catholic Christian) 14th — Makar Sankranti and Pongal (Hindu)*~~

8. ~~January 18th — 25th — Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Christian)~~

9. ~~January 19th — Timkat (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian)~~

10. ~~January 21st 15th~~

a. ~~World Religion Day (Baha'i)~~

b. ~~Triodion begins (Orthodox Christian)~~

11. ~~January 22nd — Vasant Panchami (Hindu) 28th — Chinese/Lunar New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)~~

12. ~~January 25th — Conversion of St. Paul (Christian)~~

13. ~~Tu BiShvat (Jewish)~~

G. ~~February~~

1. ~~February 1st — Vasant Panchami (Hindu)*~~

2. ~~February 2nd~~

a. ~~Imbolc-Candlemas — Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Wicca and Christian)~~

b. ~~Imbolc — Lughnassad (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres)) The Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

c. ~~Saint Brigid of Kildare (Celtic Christian)~~

3. ~~February 3rd 11th — Tu B'shvat (Jewish)~~

a. ~~St. Blaze Day (Christian)~~

b. ~~Setsebun Sai (Shinto)~~

4. ~~February 4th — Four Chaplains Sunday (Interfaith)~~

5. ~~February 8th 15th — Nirvana Day (Buddhist)~~

6. ~~February 11th~~

a. ~~Cheesefare Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~

b. ~~Transfiguration Sunday (Christian)~~

7. ~~February 12th~~

a. ~~Triodion (Orthodox Christian)~~

b. Clean Monday—Lent begins (Orthodox Christian)

8. February 13th—Shrove Tuesday (Christian)

9. February 14th

a. St. Valentine's Day (Christian)

b. Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)

c. Ash Wednesday—Lent begins (Christian)

10. February 15th—Nirvana Day (Buddhist and Jain) 25th—Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)*

11. February 16th—Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)

12. February 18th—Orthodox Sunday (Orthodox Christian)

13. February 26th—March 1st 25th–28th—Intercalary Days (Baha'i)

14. February 28th—Shrove Tuesday (Christian)

H. March

1. March 1st—St. David of Wales (Christian) Ash Wednesday (Christian)

2. March 2nd—20th—Nineteen Day Fast (Baha'i)

3. March 3rd—Holi (Hindu)

4. March 6th—Meatfare Sunday (Orthodox Christian) 12th—Purim (Jewish)

5. March 13th—L. Ron Hubbard's birthday (Scientology)

a. L. Ron Hubbard's Birthday (Church of Scientology)

b. Holi (Hindu)*

c. Hola Mohalla (Sikh)

6. March 17th—St. Patrick's Day (Christian)

7. March 18th—New Year (Hindu)

8. March 18th—26th—Ramayana (Hindu)

9. March 19th—St. Joseph's Day (Christian)

10. March 20th—Ostara (Wicca)

11. March 21st

a. Norooz (New Year) Nowruz (Persian/Zoroastrian)

b. Naw-Rúz (New Year) (Baha'i)

c. Ostara—Mabon (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))

12. March 25th

a. The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Theotokos (Eastern Orthodox Christian)

b. Palm Sunday The Annunciation of the Virgin Mary (Christian)

13. March 26th—Ramanavami (Hindu) 27th—Clean Monday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)

14. March 28th—Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zaranthushtra) (Zoroastrian)

a. Khordad Sal (Zoroastrian)

b. Chandramana Yugadi (Hindu)*

c. Souramana-Yugadi (Hindu)*

15. ~~March 29th — Maundy Thursday (Christian)~~

16. ~~March 30th — Good Friday (Christian)~~

17. ~~March 31st — April 7th — Pesach (Jewish)~~

18. ~~March 31st~~

a. ~~Lazarus Saturday (Orthodox Christian)~~

b. ~~Hanuman Jayanti (Hindu)~~

c. ~~Lord's Evening Meal (Jehovah's Witness Christian)~~

d. ~~Magha-Puja-Day (Buddhist)~~

I. ~~April~~

1. ~~April 1st — Lazarus Sunday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

a. ~~Easter (Christian)~~

b. ~~Palm Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~

2. ~~April 2nd — Palm Sunday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

3. ~~April 3rd — Mahavir Jayanti (Jain) 5th — Ramnavami (Hindu)*~~

4. ~~April 6th — Holy Friday (Orthodox Christian)~~

5. ~~April 8th — Pascha — Easter (Orthodox Christian)~~

6. ~~April 9th — Palm Sunday (Christian)~~

7. ~~April 9th-17th — Passover/Days of Unleavened Bread (Church of God and Saints of Christ)~~

8. ~~April 10th~~

a. ~~Passover (Philadelphia Church of God)~~

b. ~~Mahavir Jayanti (Jain)~~

9. ~~April 11th~~

a. ~~Lord's Evening Meal (Christian, Jehovah's Witness)~~

b. ~~Hanuman Jayanti (Hindu)*~~

c. ~~First Day of Unleavened Bread (Church of God)~~

10. ~~April 12th — Yom HaShoah (Jewish)~~

11. ~~April 13th — Lailat al Miraj (Islam)~~

12. ~~April 14th — Baisakhi (Vaisakhi) (Sikh)~~

13. ~~April 19th — Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Jewish)~~

14. ~~April 21st — First day of Ridvan (Baha'i)~~

15. ~~April 23rd — St. George's Day (Christian)~~

16. ~~April 29th~~

a. ~~Ninth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)~~

b. ~~Visakha-Puja — Buddha Day (Buddhist)~~

17. ~~April 30th — St. James the Great Day (Orthodox Christian)~~

18. April 30th—May 2nd 11th—14th—Theravadin New Year (Buddhist)
19. April 11th—17th—Days of Unleavened Bread (Philadelphia Church of God)
20. April 11th—18th—Passover (Jewish)
21. April 13th—Holy Thursday (Christian, Eastern Orthodox Christian)
22. April 14th—Holy Friday (Christian, Eastern Orthodox Christian)
23. April 16th—Easter (Christian, Eastern Orthodox Christian)
24. April 17th
 - a. Easter Monday (Christian)
 - b. Last Day of Unleavened Bread (Church of God)
 - c. Bright Monday (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
25. April 21st—First Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
26. April 24th—Lailat al Miraj (Islam)*
27. April 25th—The 11th Panchen Lama's Birthday (Buddhist)
28. April 29th—Ninth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)

J. May

1. May 1st
 - a. Beltane—Samhain (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))
 - b. Lailat al bara'ah (Islam) Yom Ha'Azmaut (Jewish)
2. May 2nd—Last Twelfth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
3. May 3rd
 - a. Saints Philip & James (Christian)
 - b. National Day of Prayer USA (Interfaith)
 - c. Lag B'Omer (Jewish)
4. May 10th—Buddha's Birthday/Buddha Day—Visakha Puja (Buddhist)
5. May 12th—Lailat al Bara'ah (Islam)*
6. May 14th—Lag B'Omer (Jewish)
7. May 10th—Ascension of Jesus (Christian)
8. May 16th—June 15th—Ramadan (Islam)
9. May 17th—Ascension of Jesus (Orthodox Christian)
10. May 20th—21st—Shavuot (Jewish)
11. May 20th—Pentecost (Christian)
12. May 23rd—Declaration of the Bab (Baha'i)
13. May 25th—Ascension of Our Lord (Christian)
14. May 27th—Ramadan (Islam)
15. May 27th
 - a. Pentecost (Orthodox Christian)

b. ~~Trinity Sunday (Christian)~~

16. ~~May 29th—Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)~~

17. ~~May 31st—Corpus Christi (Catholic Christian) 31st-June 1st—Shavuot (Jewish)~~

K. June

1. ~~June 2nd—All Saints (Orthodox Christian) 4th~~

a. ~~Pentecost (Christian)~~

b. ~~Pentecost (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

2. ~~June 8th—Sacred Heart of Jesus (Catholic Christian)~~

3. ~~June 9th—St. Columa of Iona (Celtic Christian)~~

4. ~~June 11th—Laylat al Kadr (Islam)~~

5. ~~June 15th—17th—Eid al-Fitr—Ramadan ends (Islam)~~

6. ~~June 15th—Saint Vladimir Day (Christian)~~

7. ~~June 16th—Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib (Sikh)~~

8. ~~June 19th—New Church Day (Swedenborgian Christian)~~

9. ~~June 20th—Waqf al Arafah—Hajj Day (Islam)~~

10. ~~June 21st~~

a. ~~Litha—Yule (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))~~

b. ~~First Nations Day (Canadian Native People)~~

11. ~~June 29th—Fast of Saints Peter and Paul the Holy Apostles (Eastern Orthodox Christian)~~

~~*Approximate date based on lunar calendar. Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the dates. The information has been verified through the use of various sources and some dates may vary due to the lunar, Gregorian, and Julian calendars.~~

(☒) Periodically, (☐) Annually, the Superintendent may consult with religious institutions and leaders in the community with regard to modification of the above list of religious holidays. The Board, however, is not bound by the information provided to the Superintendent by religious institutions and leaders.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures and time limits to be observed:

- A. by students, teachers, and administrators in making available to each student, so excused, an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work assignment which has been missed;
- B. by a student's parent(s) or guardian when giving prior notice of the student's intended absence; and
- C. when giving affected students and parents an opportunity to be heard in connection with the decision not to excuse an absence on a day or portion thereof which is not included in the above list of religious holidays.

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F.S. 1003.21

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