

# School Board of Brevard County

2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way · Viera, FL 32940-6601

Mark W. Mullins, Ed.D., Superintendent



May 20, 2019

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** All Principals

**FROM:** Bill Macheras, Assistant Director *BM*  
Office of Student Support Services, Student Activities

**SUBJECT:** Reminder: Religious Observances, Activities Scheduling and Perfect Attendance

Now that the 2018-19 school year is coming to a close and you and your staff begin to prepare and plan for the 2019-20 school year's activities and athletic events, please see the attached list of major religious holidays/holy days for the 2019-20 school year. As a reminder, school-sponsored activities, including but not limited to, open houses and parent conferences, should not be scheduled on major religious holidays. Additionally, please be mindful of the attached dates as you schedule events in your schools, such as field trips, homecoming/prom, major projects and tests, and athletic events.

[School board policy 5225](#) governs procedures for absences for religious holidays. Student absences for religious purposes are excused absences and do not prohibit students from receiving *perfect attendance* recognition. If requested in writing prior to the religious holiday, these absences should not be counted toward the nine (9) days in a semester rule. Please share this information with your parents related to requesting the major religious holidays off *in advance, and in writing*. This information may also be found in the [Elementary and Secondary Code of Student Conduct under Compulsory School Attendance](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information, at 633-1000, extension 567.

pc: Asst. Superintendent, Student Services  
Asst. Superintendent, Elementary Leading & Learning  
Asst. Superintendent, Secondary Leading & Learning  
Melissa Catechis, Director, Student Support Services

Melissa G. Catechis, Director  
Office of Student Services, Student Support Services  
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**Major Religious Holidays/Holy Days  
Summer 2019 and School Year 2019-20  
May 20, 2019**

## Summer 2019

<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Religious Group</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Eid al-Fitr, (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	Jun. 5, 2019 #	
*Shavuot	Jewish	Jun. 9-10, 2019	Begins sundown 6/8
*Martydom of the Báb	Bahá'í	Jul. 10, 2019	

## Autumn 2019

<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Religious Group</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Eid al-Adha	Islamic	Aug. 12, 2019 #	
Al-Hijra	Islamic	August 31, 2019 #	
*Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	Jewish	Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 2019	Begins sundown 9/29
Dussehra	Hindu	Oct. 8, 2019	
*Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish	Oct. 9, 2019	Begins sundown 10/8
*Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	Jewish	Oct. 14-20, 2019	*Oct. 14-15 Primary Obligation Days Begins sundown 10/13
*Shemini Atzeret	Jewish	Oct. 21, 2019	Begins sundown 10/20
*Simchat Torah	Jewish	Oct. 22, 2019	
Diwali	Hindu	Oct. 27, 2019 #	
*Birth of the Báb	Bahá'í	Oct. 29, 2019	Begins sundown 10/28
*Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	Oct. 30, 2019	
*Mawlid al-Nabi	Islamic	Nov. 10, 2019	Begins sundown 11/9
Christmas (Birth of Jesus)	Christian	Dec 25, 2019	
Kwanzaa	Interfaith /African- American	Dec. 26, 2019-Jan. 1, 2020	

## Winter 2020

<b>Holiday or Observance</b>	<b>Religious Group</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
Bodhi Day	Buddhist	Jan. 2, 2020	

Orthodox Christmas	Christian Orthodox	Jan. 7, 2020	
Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	Feb. 21, 2020	
Holi	Hindu	Mar. 9-10, 2020 #	
PURIM	Jewish	Mar. 10, 2020	Begins sundown 3/9
*Naw Ruz (New Year)	Bahá'í	Mar. 20, 2020	

## Spring 2020

Holiday or Observance	Religious Group	Dates	Additional Notes
Rama Navami	Hindu	Apr. 2, 2020 #	
*Passover (Pesach)	Jewish	Apr. 9-16, 2020	*Apr. 9-10 & Apr. 15-16 Primary Obligation Days Begins sundown 4/8
Good Friday	Christian Orthodox	Apr. 10, 2020	
Easter	Christian Orthodox	Apr. 12, 2020	
Vaisakhi	Hindu	Apr. 13, 2020	
*First Day of Ridván	Bahá'í	Apr. 20, 2020	
Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	April 17, 2020	
Beginning of Ramadan	Islamic	April 24, 2020 #	April 23-May 23, 2020
*Ninth Day of Ridván	Bahá'í	Apr. 28, 2020	
*Twelfth Day of Ridván	Bahá'í	May 1, 2020	
*Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	May 23, 2020	
*Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Bahá'í	May 28, 2020	

## Summer 2020

Holiday or Observance	Religious Group	Dates	Additional Notes
Eid al-Fitr, (End of Ramadan)	Islamic	May 24, 2020 #	Begins sundown 5/23
*Shavuot	Jewish	May 29-30, 2020	Begins sundown 5/28
*Martyrdom of the Báb	Bahá'í	Jul. 9, 2020	

\* These holidays have been designated non-work days by the religions that celebrate them.

# Some of these dates are not fixed to a calendar but based on the actual sighting of the moon and therefore there may be some variance by a day.