



Book	Policy Manual
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### **REVISED POLICY - VOL. 18, NO. 2**

**[NOTE: This policy is required by State law and the Florida Administrative Code.]**

#### **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 following religious holidays for the 2017-2018 school year for which student absence will be excused:

#### **A. July**

1. July 9th - Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha'i)
  - a. ~~Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha'i)~~
  - b. ~~Asalha-Puja-Day (Buddhist)~~
2. July 11th - St. Benedict Day (Catholic Christian)
  - a. ~~St. Benedict Day (Catholic Christian)~~
  - b. ~~All Saints (Orthodox Christian)~~
3. ~~July 13th - Ulambana - Obon (Buddhist)~~
4. July 13th - 15th - Obon (Buddhist and Shinto)
5. July 15th - St. Vladimir the Great Day (Orthodox Christian)
6. July 22nd - Tish'a B'av (Jewish)
7. ~~July 23rd - Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zaranthushtra) (Zoroastrian)~~
8. July 24th - Pioneer Day (Mormon Christian)
9. July 25th - St. James the Great Day (Christian)
10. July 27th - Asalha Puja Day (Buddhist)

#### **B. August**

1. August 1st
  - a. Fast in Honor of the Holy Mother of Lord Jesus (Eastern Orthodox Christian)
  - b. Lammas (Christian)
  - c. ~~Lughnassad - Imbolc (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))~~

d. ~~Tish'a-B'av (Jewish)~~

2. August 2nd - Lughnassad - Imbolc (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))

3. August 6th - Transfiguration of the Lord (Orthodox Christian)

4. ~~August 7th - Raksha-Bandhan (Hindu)~~

5. August 15th

a. ~~Krishna-Janmashtami (Hindu)~~

b. Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (Catholic Christian)

c. Dormition of the Theotokos (Orthodox Christian)

6. ~~August 26th - September 4th - Paryushana-Parva (Jain)~~

7. August 22nd - 25th - Eid al Adha (Islam)

8. August 29th -

a. Beheading of St. John the Baptist (Christian)

b. Raksha Bandhan (Hindu)

9. ~~August 31st - Waqf al-Arafa - Hajj Day (Islam)~~

#### C. September

1. September 1st - Religious year begins (Orthodox Christian)

2. September 3rd - Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu) ~~September 1st - 4th - Eid al Adha (Islam)~~

3. September 8th - Nativity of Virgin Mary (Christian)

4. September 10th - 11th - Rosh Hashannah (Jewish)

5. September 12th - Hijra - New Year (Islam)

6. September 13th - Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)

7. September 14th -

a. Elevation of the Life Giving Cross (Holy Cross) (Christian)

b. Paryushana Parva (Jain)

8. ~~September 21st - 22nd~~

a. ~~Rosh Hashana (Jewish)~~

b. ~~New Year - Hijra (Islam)~~

9. September 19th - Yom Kippur (Jewish) ~~September 21st - 29th - Navaratri (Hindu)~~

10. September 21st - Ashura (Islam)

11. September 22nd - Mabon - Ostara (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))

a. ~~Mabon (Wicca/Pagan (northern hemisphere))~~

b. ~~Ostara (Wicca/Pagan (southern hemisphere))~~

12. September 24th - 31st - Sukkot (Jewish) ~~September 25th - Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)~~

13. September 27th - Meskel (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian)

14. September 29th - Michael and All Angels (Christian)

15. ~~September 30th~~

a. ~~Yom Kippur (Jewish)~~

b. ~~Dasara (Hindu)~~

#### D. October

1. October 1st - ~~Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)~~~~Ashura (Islam)~~

2. ~~October 2nd - Simchat Torah (Jewish)~~

3. October 4th

a. St. Francis Day (Catholic Christian)

b. Blessing of the Animals (Christian)

4. ~~October 5th - 11th - Sukkot (Jewish)~~

5. October ~~8th~~~~9th~~ - Thanksgiving - Canada (Interfaith)

6. ~~October 12th - Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)~~

7. ~~October 9th - 16th - Navaratri (Hindu)~~~~October 13th - Simchat Torah (Jewish)~~

8. October 18th - St. Luke, Apostle & Evangelist (Christian)

9. October 19th - ~~Dasara (Hindu)~~~~Diwali - Deepavali (Hindu, Jain, and Sikh)~~

10. October 20th

a. Birth of Báb (Baha'i)

b. Installation of Scriptures of Guru Granth (Sikh)

c. ~~Jain New Year (Jain)~~

11. October 28th -

a. ~~Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)~~

b. Milvian Bridge Day (Christian)

12. ~~October 29th - Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)~~

13. October 31st

a. All Hallows Eve (Christian)

b. Reformation Day (Protestant Christian)

#### E. November

1. November 1st

a. All Saints' Day (Christian)

b. Samhain-Beltane (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))

2. November 2nd - All Souls' Day (Catholic Christian)

3. ~~November 7th - Diwali (Sikh, Jain, and Hindu)~~~~November 4th - Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib (Sikh)~~

4. ~~November 8th~~

a. ~~Jain New Year (Jain)~~

b. ~~Vikram New Year (Hindu)~~

5. November 12th - Birth of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)

6. November 15th - Nativity Feast begins-ends Dec. 24th (Orthodox Christian)

7. [November 21st - Mawlid an Nabi \(Islam\)](#)
8. November ~~22nd~~~~23rd~~ - Thanksgiving (Interfaith USA)
9. [November 23rd - Guru Nanak Dev Sahib birthday \(Sikh\)](#) ~~November 24th - Guru Tegh Bahadur Martyrdom (Sikh)~~
10. [November 25th - Christ the King \(Christian\)](#)
11. November 26th - [Day of the Covenant \(Baha'i\)](#)
  - a. ~~Day of Covenant (Baha'i)~~
  - b. ~~Christ the King (Christian)~~
12. November 28th - Ascension of 'Abdu'l Baha (Baha'i)
13. November 30th - St. Andrew's Day (Christian)

## F. December

1. ~~December 1st - Mawlid an Nabi (Islam)~~
2. December ~~2nd~~~~3rd~~ - 24th - Advent (Christian)
3. [December 3rd - 10th - Hanukkah \(Jewish\)](#)
4. December 6th - Saint Nicholas Day (Christian)
5. December 8th
  - a. Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) (Buddhist)
  - b. Immaculate Conception of Mary (Catholic Christian)
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. [Yule - Litha](#) (Wicca/Pagan (~~nothern~~ and southern hemispheres))
  - c. [Saint Thomas the Apostle \(Christian\)](#)
10. December 24th - Christmas Eve (Christian)
11. December 25th
  - a. Christmas (Christian)
  - b. Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christian)
12. December 26th
  - a. Zarathosht Diso (Death of Prophet Zarathushtra) (Zoroastrian)
  - b. St. Stephen's Day (Christian)
13. December 28th - Holy Innocents (Christian)
14. [December 30th - Holy Family \(Catholic Christian\)](#)
15. December 31st - [Watch Night \(Christian\)](#)
  - a. ~~Watch Night (Christian)~~
  - b. ~~Holy Family (Catholic Christian)~~

## G. January

## 1. January 1st

- a. Gantan-sai (New Years) (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)~~

## 3. January 5th

- a. Birthday of Guru Gobindh Singh (Sikh)
- b. Twelfth Night (Christian)

## 4. January 6th

- a. Epiphany (Christian)
- b. Feast of the Epiphany (Theophany) (Orthodox Christian)
- c. Nativity of Christ (Armenian Orthodox)
- d. Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day) (Christian)

5. January 7th – Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christian)

- a. ~~Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christian)~~
- b. ~~Baptism of the Lord Jesus (Christian)~~

6. January 8th – Feast of the Holy Family (Catholic Christian)

## 7. January 13th -

- a. Maghi (Sikh)
- b. Baptism of the Lord Jesus (Christian)

## 8. January 17th - Blessing of the Animals (Hispanic Catholic Christian)

## 9. January 18th - 25th - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Christian)

## 10. January 19th - Timkat (Ethiopian Orthodox Christian)

11. January ~~20th~~21st

- a. World Religion Day (Baha'i)
- b. Tu BiShvat (Jewish)~~Triodion begins (Orthodox Christian)~~

12. January 21st - 23rd - Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)~~January 22nd – Vasant Panchami (Hindu)~~

## 13. January 25th - Conversion of St. Paul (Christian)

14. ~~Tu BiShvat (Jewish)~~

## H. February

## 1. February 2nd

- a. Candlemas - Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Christian)
- b. Imbolc - Lughnassad (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))
- c. Saint Brigid of Kildare (Celtic Christian)



## 2. February 3rd

- a. St. Blaze Day (Christian)
- b. Setsebun-sSai (beginning of spring) (Shinto)
- c. Four Chaplains Sunday (Interfaith)

3. ~~February 4th - Four Chaplains Sunday (Interfaith)~~4. February 5th - Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)

## 5. February 8th - Nirvana Day (Buddhist)

6. February ~~10th~~~~11th~~ - Cheesefare Sunday (Orthodox Christian)

- a. ~~Cheesefare Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- b. ~~Transfiguration Sunday (Christian)~~

7. February 12th - Triodion (Orthodox Christian)

- a. ~~Triodion (Orthodox Christian)~~
- b. ~~Clean Monday - Lent begins (Orthodox Christian)~~

8. ~~February 13th - Shrove Tuesday (Christian)~~9. February 14th - St. Valentine's Day (Christian)

- a. ~~St. Valentine's Day (Christian)~~
- b. ~~Maha-Shivaratri (Hindu)~~
- c. ~~Ash Wednesday - Lent begins (Christian)~~

## 10. February 15th - Nirvana Day (Buddhist and Jain)

11. February 17th - Triodion begins (Orthodox Christian)~~February 16th - Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)~~12. ~~February 18th - Orthodox Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~

## 13. February 26th - March 1st - Intercalary Days (Baha'i)

## I. March

1. March 1st - St. David of Wales (Christian)

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

3. March 3rd - ~~Holi (Hindu)~~

- a. Meatfare Sunday (Orthodox Christian)
- b. Transfiguration Sunday (Christian)

4. March 5th - Shrove Tuesday (Christian)~~March 6th - Meatfare Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~5. March 6th - Ash Wednesday - Lent begins (Christian)6. March 10th - Orthodox Sunday (Orthodox Christian)7. Ostara - Mabon (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))8. Lord's Evening Meal (Jehovah's Witness Christian)9. Purim (Jewish)J. March 25th - Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Christian)

- a. ~~The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Orthodox Christian)~~
- b. ~~Palm Sunday (Christian)~~

- K. ~~March 26th - Ramanavami (Hindu)~~
- L. March 28th - Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zaranthushtra) (Zoroastrian)
- M. ~~March 29th - Maundy Thursday (Christian)~~
- N. ~~March 30th - Good Friday (Christian)~~
- O. ~~March 31st - April 7th - Pesach (Jewish)~~
- P. ~~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)~~

- April

- 1. ~~April 1st~~
  - a. ~~Easter (Christian)~~
  - b. ~~Palm Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 2. April 3rd - ~~Laylat al Miraj (Islam)~~ ~~Mahavir Jayanti (Jain)~~
- 3. ~~April 9th - Mahavir Jayanti (Jain)~~ ~~April 6th - Holy Friday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 4. ~~April 8th - Pascha - Easter (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 5. ~~April 12th - Yom HaShoah (Jewish)~~
- 6. ~~April 13th - Lailat al Miraj (Islam)~~
- 7. April 14th -
  - a. Baisakhi (Vaisakhi) (Sikh)
  - b. ~~Palm Sunday (Christian)~~
- 8. ~~April 17th - Orthodox Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 9. ~~April 18th - Maundy Thursday (Christian)~~
- 10. ~~April 19th - Good Friday (Christian)~~
- 11. April 19th - ~~21st - Theravadin New Year (Buddhist)~~ ~~Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Jewish)~~
- 12. ~~April 20th - 27th - Pesach (Jewish)~~ ~~April 21st - First day of Ridvan (Baha'i)~~
- 13. ~~April 20th - Lazarus Saturday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 14. ~~April 21st~~
  - a. ~~Easter (Christian)~~
  - b. ~~First Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)~~
  - c. ~~Lailat al Bara'ah (Islam)~~
  - d. ~~Palm Sunday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 15. April 23rd - St. George's Day (Christian)
- 16. ~~April 26th - Holy Friday (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 17. ~~April 28th - Pascha - Easter (Orthodox Christian)~~
- 18. April 29th - ~~Ninth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)~~

- a. ~~Ninth Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)~~
- b. ~~Visakha Puja—Buddha Day (Buddhist)~~

19. April 30th - St. James the Great Day (Orthodox Christian)

20. ~~April 30th—May 2nd—Theravadin New Year (Buddhist)~~

• May

1. May 1st - ~~Beltane - Samhain (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))~~

- a. ~~Beltane—Samhain (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))~~
- b. ~~Lailat al bara'ah (Islam)~~

2. May 2nd -

- a. Last Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
- b. National Day of Prayer USA (Interfaith)
- c. Yom HaShoah (Jewish)

3. May 3rd - Saints Philip & James (Christian)

- a. ~~Saints Philip & James (Christian)~~
- b. ~~National Day of Prayer USA (Interfaith)~~
- c. ~~Lag-B'Omer (Jewish)~~

4. ~~May 10th—Ascension of Jesus (Christian)~~

5. May ~~6th 16th—June 15th—~~ Ramadan begins (Islam)

6.

7. ~~Pentecost (Orthodox Christian)~~

8. ~~Trinity Sunday (Christian)~~

• May 29th - Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)

• May 30th - Ascension of Jesus (Christian) ~~31st—Corpus Christi (Catholic Christian)~~

• June

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

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

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

4. June 1st 11th - Laylat al Kadr (Islam)

5. June 5th - 7th 15th—17th - Eid al Fitr ~~—Ramadan ends~~ (Islam)

6. June 6th - Ascension of Jesus (Orthodox Christian)

7. June 9th

- a. St. Columba of Iona (Celtic Christian)
- b. Pentecost (Christian)

8. June 15th - Saint Vladimir Day (Christian)

9. June 16th -

- a. Martyrdom of Guru Arjan (Sikh)



b. [Trinity Sunday \(Christian\)](#)

10. June 19th - New Church Day (Swedenborgian Christian)

11. June 20th - [Corpus Christi \(Catholic Christian\)](#)~~Waqf al-Arafa—Hajj Day (Islam)~~12. June 21st - [Litha - Yule \(Wicca/Pagan \(northern and southern hemispheres\)\)](#)a. ~~Litha—Yule (Wicca/Pagan (northern and southern hemispheres))~~b. ~~First Nations Day (Canadian Native People)~~13. [June 22nd - First Nations Day \(Canadian Native People\)](#)14. [June 23rd - All Saints \(Orthodox Christian\)](#)15. [June 28th - Sacred Heart of Jesus \(Catholic Christian\)](#)16. June 29th - ~~Feast~~ of Saints Peter and Paul (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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Last Modified by Sam Stalnaker on November 5, 2018