



Poway Unified School District Cultural Observances Calendar 2019-2020

The purpose of this calendar is to address and support the diversity of students, staff, and families in our schools. As we increase our understanding of diverse cultures and their traditions, values, and beliefs, we can create culturally responsive learning environments in which everyone feels valued and respected.

Due to the extensive number of cultural holidays, dates for this list were chosen based on the following criteria:

- A student may be absent from school or an after school event as a result of this day.
- A student may be disengaged on this day (e.g. because of fasting or sadness on a day of remembrance).
- A student may be unable to participate in a school activity for cultural or religious reasons (e.g. Halloween activities, Valentine's Day, Easter egg hunts, etc.)
- The day may provide a teachable moment opportunity regarding cultural diversity that might not otherwise be discussed, especially dates associated with oppression, discrimination, or racism.

This is not a comprehensive list, but if you believe that an important date is missing and should be included, please contact Mercedes Hubschmitt at mhubschmitt@powayusd.com

**Holy days begin at sunset of the date listed and go to sunset of the following day. (Some observances are based on the actual sighting of the moon and therefore the date may vary.)*

^ Observances may include fasting for a period of time.

August 2019

11*-13 Eid al Adha (Islamic)

September 2019

2 Labor Day
11 Day of Remembrance and Service (for 9/11)
13 Moon Festival - Chuseok (Korean) O-Tsukimi (Japanese)
15 **Hispanic Heritage Month** (9/15-10/15)
16 Mexican Independence Day
17 Constitution Day
27 Native American Day
29*-30 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)

October 2019

1* Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
Hispanic Heritage Month (9/15-10/15)
Filipino American Heritage Month
8*-9 Yom Kippur (Jewish)
31 Halloween (Keep in mind that not all families regard Halloween in a positive light)
31-11/2 Dia de los Muertos (Mexican)

November 2019

American Indian Heritage Month

- 2 Last day of Dia de los Muertos
- 11 Veteran's Day Observed
- 27 Diwali (Hindu/Sikh)
- 28 Thanksgiving (Seek to ensure that depictions of the role of Native Americans are respectful and historically accurate.)

December 2019

- 22*-30 Hanukkah
- 16-24 Las Posadas (Mexican)
- 25 Christmas (Christian)
- 26-1/1 Kwanzaa (African American)

January 2020

- 1 New Year's Day and Last Day of Kwanzaa
- 7 Eastern Orthodox Christmas
- 13 Korean American Day
- 20 Martin Luther King Day
- 25 Lunar New Year: *Year of the Rat* (China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Korea and Singapore)

February 2020

Black History Month

- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 President's Day Holiday
- 26 ^ Ash Wednesday (Christian)
- 26 Lent begins (Christian)

March 2020

- 1* Ala (Baha'i)
- 9-10 Holi (Hindu/Sikh)
- 9-10 Purim (Jewish)
- 10 Purim ends
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20* Nowruz (Persian New Year)
- 31 Cesar Chavez Day

April 2020

- 5 Palm Sunday (Christian)
- 5-11 Holy Week (Christian)
- 8*- 16 Passover/Pesach (Jewish)
- 10^ Good Friday
- 11 Lent ends
- 12 Easter (Christian)
- 16 Passover/Pesach ends
- 19 Eastern Orthodox Easter (Pascha)
- 19*- 5/1 First day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
- 23* ^ Beginning of Ramadan (Islamic)
- 27 * Ninth day of Ridvan (Baha'i)

May 2020**Asian American and Pacific Islander Month**

- 1* 12th Day of Ridvan (Baha'i)
- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 10 Mother's Day
- 23 Eid al Fitr/End of Ramadan (Islamic)
- 25 Memorial Day

June 2020

- 19 Juneteenth (African American)
- 21 Father's Day

DATES TO CELEBRATE STAFF

- October 2 National Custodians Day*
- October 16 Boss's Appreciation Day*
- February 3-7 Counselor Appreciation Week*
- April 4 School Librarians Day*
- April 22 Administrative Professionals Day*
- April 28 School Bus Drivers Day*
- May 4-8 School Nutrition Employee Week*
- May 5 National Teachers Day*
- May 6 School Nurses and Health Professionals Day*
- May 18-22 Classified School Employee Week*