**Multi-faith Calendar**

**2024–2025 School Year**

Many students and their families celebrate holy days and days of significance in their faith. Students, families and community groups have told us how important it is for them to see themselves in our policies and practices as a Division. The multi-faith calendar is another step forward in making school a welcoming and inclusive place for every single student.

Knowing the needs of their communities, school staff can use the calendar as a reference when planning school events, student exams and project deadlines.

**LEGEND:**

**●** = Indicates a Holy Day of high significance for the stated religion. Schools will avoid scheduling certain events/activities on these days (e.g., scheduling exams, project completion dates).

○ = Indicates that the Holy Day begins the evening prior to the listed date. School will avoid scheduling certain events/activities on these evenings (e.g., parent-teacher interviews, school performances). Days of significance in the Bahá’í, Jewish, Islamic, and Wiccan faiths begin at sunset on the evening prior to the date shown and end at sunset on the last day shown.

+/- = Holy Day of high significance may shift by a few days before or after the indicated date due to the use of a purely lunar calendar instead of a solar or lunisolar calendar. The date provided can be used for planning and will be confirmed closer to the listed date. Days of significance in the Islamic/Hijri calendar are based on a lunar calendar.

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AUGUST 2024** | 1 | Lammas ○ | Wiccan |
| 13 | Tisha B’Av○ | Judaism |
| 19 | Raksha Bandhan | Hinduism |
| 26 | Sri Krishna Jayanti/Sri Krishna Janmashtami | Hinduism |
| 31-Sept.7 | Samvatsari Parva/Daslakshan Parva | Jainism |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  **SEPTEMBER 2024** | 11 | Nayrouz ○ | Christianity (Coptic Orthodox) |
| 16 | Mawlid-al-Nabī ○ | Islam |
| 22 | Mabon ○ | Wiccan  |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **OCTOBER 2024** | 3-4 | Rosh Hashanah **●** ○ | Judaism |
| 3-12 | Sharad Navratri | Hinduism |
| 11 | Durga Ashtami | Hinduism |
| 12 | Yom Kippur **●** ○ | Judaism |
| 12 | Dassehra/ Vijaya Dashami/Dasara **●** | Hinduism |
| 17 | Pavarana | Buddhism (Theravada) |
| 17-23 | Sukkot ○  | Judaism |
| 20 | Installation of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji | Sikhism |
| 20 | Karwa Chauth | Hinduism |
| 24-25 | Shemini Atzerat/Simchat Torah ○ | Judaism |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NOVEMBER 2024** | 1 | Samhain ○ | Wiccan |
| 1 | Deepavali/Diwali/Bandi Chhor Divas **●** | Hinduism/Jainism/Sikhism |
| 2 | Gujarat New Year/Enlightenment day of Gautam Swami | Jainism |
| 2 | Birth of Báb **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 3 | Birth of Bahá’u’lláh **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 3 | Bhai Tika | Hinduism |
| 6 | Labh Panchami **●**  | Jainism |
| 15 | Guru Nanak Jayanti (Birth Date) **●** | Sikhism |
| 15-Dec.24 | Nativity Fast | Christianity (Julian Calendar) |
| 24 | Guru Tegh Bahadur (Martyrdom) | Sikhism |
| 25 | Day of the Covenant ○ | Bahá’í |
| 27 | Ascension ‘Abdu’l-Bahá ○ | Bahá’í |
| 30 | Sigd ○ | Judaism |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DECEMBER 2024** | 1-24 | Advent | Christianity (Gregorian Calendar) |
| 8 | Bodhi Day | Buddhism (Mahayana) |
| 21 | Winter Solstice | Indigenous |
| 21 | Yule ○ | Wiccan |
| 26-Jan.2 | Hanukkah **●** ○  | Judaism |
| 25 | Christmas **●** ○ | Christianity (Gregorian Calendar, New Julian Calendar) |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **JANUARY 2025** | 1 | New Year | Christianity (Gregorian Calendar) |
| 6 | Epiphany | Christianity (Gregorian Calendar, New Julian Calendar) |
| 7 | Christmas **●** ○ | Christianity (Julian Calendar) |
| 13 | Maghi/Lohri | Sikhism |
| 14 | New Year | Christianity (Julian Calendar) |
| 14 | Mahayana New Year | Buddhism (Mahayana) |
| 14 | Makar Sankranti (Start of Dhanu Sankranti) **●** | Hinduism |
| 17 | Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti (Birth Date)  | Sikhism |
| 19 | Epiphany | Christianity (Julian Calendar) |
| 29 | Lunar New Year (Losar) **●**  | Buddhism (Tibetan) |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FEBRUARY 2025** | 1 | Imbolc ○ | Wiccan |
| 2 | Vasanta Panchami **●** | Hinduism |
| 13 | Magha Puja Day  **●** | Buddhism |
| 13 | Tu B’Shvat ○ | Judaism |
| 15 | Parinirvana/Nirvana Day **●** | Buddhism |
| 25-28 | Ayyám-i-Há ○ | Bahá’í |
| 26 | Maha Shivaratri **●** | Hinduism |
| 28-Mar.19 | Bahá'i Fast  | Bahá’í |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MARCH 2025** | 1 | First day of Ramadan **●** ○ +/- | Islam |
| 3-Apr.19 | Lent starting with Clean/Pure Monday | Christianity (Julian Calendar) |
| 5-Apr.17 | Lent starting with Ash Wednesday | Christianity (Gregorian Calendar) |
| 14 | Purim ○ | Judaism |
| 14 | Holi | Hinduism |
| 14-16 | Hola Mohalla | Sikhism |
| 20 | Naw Rúz **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 20 | Ostara ○ | Wiccan |
| 23 | Laylat-al-Qadr ○+/- | Islam (Shi’a) |
| 27 | Laylat-al-Qadr ○ +/- | Islam (Sunni) |
| 30-Apr.7 | Vasanta Navratri **●** | Hinduism |
| 31 | Eid al-Fitr **●** ○ +/- | Islam |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **APRIL 2025** | 6 | Shri Ram Navami | Hinduism |
| 10 | Mahavir Jayanti (Birth Date) **●** | Jainism |
| 13 | Theravada New Year | Buddhism (Theravada) |
| 13-20 | Passover **●** ○ | Judaism |
| 14 | Vaisakhi **●** | Sikhism |
| 17 | Holy/Maundy Thursday (Gregorian) / Holy/Maundy Thursday (Julian) | Christianity (Gregorian and Julian Calendar) |
| 18 | Good Friday (Gregorian) / Good Friday (Julian) **●** | Christianity (Gregorian and Julian Calendar) |
| 20 | Easter (Gregorian) / Pascha (Julian)**●** | Christianity (Gregorian and Julian Calendar) |
| 21 | First day Ridván **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 29 | Ninth of Ridván **●** ○ | Bahá’í |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MAY 2025** | 1 | Beltane ○ | Wiccan |
| 2 | Twelfth of Ridván **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 12 | Vesak/Wesak/Buddha Day **●** | Buddhism |
| 16 | Lag B’Omer ○ | Judaism |
| 23 | The Declaration of The Báb **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 29 | Ascension Of Bahá'u'lláh **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 30 | Guru Arjun Dev Ji (Martyrdom) | Sikhism |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **JUNE 2025** | 2-3 | Shavuot **●** ○ | Judaism |
| 7 | Eid al-Adha **●** ○ +/- | Islam |
| 8 | Pentecost (Gregorian)/(Julian) | Christianity (Gregorian and Julian Calendar) |
| 21 | Litha ○ | Wiccan |
| 21 | National Indigenous Peoples Day/Solstice | Indigenous |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **JULY 2025** | 6 | Muharram | Islam |
| 9 | Martyrdom of Báb **●** ○ | Bahá’í |
| 10 | Asalha Puja/Theravada Dharma Day | Buddhism |

| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **DAY OF SIGNIFICANCE** | **REFERENCE** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AUGUST 2025** | 1 | Lammas ○ | Wiccan |
| 3 | Tisha B’Av○ | Judaism |
| 9 | Raksha Bandhan | Hinduism |
| 15 | Sri Krishna Jayanti/Sri Krishna Janmashtami | Hinduism |

**PROPOSED RELIGIONS AND DATES FOR INCLUSION:**

The religions included in this calendar represent the religions in Alberta with more than a thousand followers during the 2011 Canadian census. Other religions with large worldwide populations include Caodaism, Confucianism, Muism, Shintoism, Taoism, Traditional Spirituality (Indigenous) and Zoroastrianism. Over a million Albertans identified no religious affiliations in the 2011 census.

More recent information from [Statistic Canada 2019 Religions in Canada](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-627-m/11-627-m2021079-eng.htm) and our [EPSB 2022-2023 Student Demographic Survey](https://epsb.ca/media/epsb/ourdistrict/topicsofinterest/anti-racismandequity/studentdemographicsurvey/StudentDemographicSurvey-WhoWeAreReport2022-23.pdf), supports the continued inclusion of the chosen religions.