

Texas Schools Special Observance Days Overview and Resources

August

26th	Women's Independence Day ... to commemorate the ratification in 1920 of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which guaranteed women the right to vote; to inspire a greater appreciation of the importance of women's suffrage.	Sec. 662.051	Required
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September

All Month See School Nurse	Hydrocephalus Awareness Month ...increase public awareness of hydrocephalus, a serious neurological condition characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluid in the ventricles of the brain.	Sec. 662.106	Required
11th	Texas First Responders Day ... in honor of the bravery, courage, and determination of Texas men and women who assist others in emergencies. National Day of Remembrance (Patriot Day) ...to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.	Sec. 662.050	Required
Sept 15-Oct 15	Hispanic Heritage Month Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15 by celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of Americans who trace their heritage to Latin America or Spain.	TEA Social Studies Webpage	
Week in which the 17th falls	Celebrate Freedom Week and Constitution Day ...to educate students about the sacrifices made for freedom in the founding of this country and the values on which this country was founded	Sec. 29.907	Required
Last Friday in September	American Indian Heritage Day ... in recognition of the historical, cultural, and social contributions American Indian communities and leaders have made to this state... to honor American Indians in this state and to celebrate the rich traditional and contemporary American Indian culture.	Sec. 662.056	Required

November

3rd	Father of Texas Day ... in memory of Stephen F. Austin, the great pioneer patriot and the real and true Father of Texas ... to properly commemorate the birthday of Stephen F. Austin and to inspire a greater love for this beloved state.	Sec. 662.045	Required
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January

Jan 6	Sam Rayburn Day ... in memory of that great Texas and American statesman, Sam Rayburn	Sec. 662.041	Required
Jan 9	Law Enforcement Appreciation Day ... In appreciation of law enforcement service to communities and schools Suggested Activities: - Write a letter of appreciation and/or thank you cards to the school and local law enforcement personnel - Invite the school resource officer to come and talk to the class.	Sec. 662.067	Optional
The week that includes Jan. 27	Holocaust Remembrance Week ... to educate students about the Holocaust and inspire in students a sense of responsibility to recognize and uphold human value and to prevent future atrocities.	Sec. 662.041	Required

February

All Month	Black History Month ...to honor the achievements of African Americans in American history, including the building of America, important inventions, and current contributions.	TEA	Required
2nd	Texas Military Heroes Day During the first full week of February, we honor all who have sacrificed and served on behalf of the Lone Star State. No matter the battle, no matter the branch, no matter the job – they deserve our gratitude and reverence. At this time, I encourage all Texans to recognize and honor those who have secured our freedom throughout the generations and those who are defending it still.	TEC. 29.9071	Required

19th	State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day (STAR) ... in honor of Texas joining the Union and the day that James Pinckney Henderson became the first governor of the State of Texas... to commemorate the annexation of this state and to inspire a greater appreciation for the history of this state	Sec. 662.047	Required
19th	Iwo Jima Day ... in memory of the heroism and courage of the men and women of the armed forces of the United States who participated in the successful capture of the island of Iwo Jima beginning February 19, 1945.	Sec. 662.062	Optional

March

Month-long	Texas History Month ... in honor of those Texans who helped shape the history of the State of Texas and in recognition of events throughout Texas' history... to promote interest in and knowledge of Texas history. Includes Texas Flag Day and Texas Independence Day on March 2	Sec. 662.102	Required
March 1 See STEM and/or science teachers	Texas Girls in STEM Day ...celebrates and encourages participation of girls in this state in science-related fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). Focuses on celebrating Texas women who have excelled in those fields and encourages girls to consider careers in this field.	Sec. 662.073	Required

April

First Friday in April See student nutrition	Texas Fruits and Vegetables Day ...promote awareness of the health benefits of fruits and vegetables and encourage students to consume more fruits and vegetables.	Sec. 662.103	Optional
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