

The Wakefield Public Schools District is a culturally and religiously diverse community. While the schools are not closed for observance of religious holidays, it is the intention of the District to respect the religious and cultural days that are significant to students, families, and staff. The following list includes many of these holidays celebrated during the 2021-2022 school year that may require a student to be absent from school. Students who miss schoolwork because of an excused absence, including absence for religious observance, should not be expected to complete homework, study for tests or do other school work during their absence. They shall be given the opportunity to complete assignments and tests within a reasonable time, based on the circumstances. These absences should be managed in the same manner as absences for other excused reasons, including informing the school of the absence, talking with teachers about the absence, missed work, etc. Please contact the Belmont Public Schools with information about any religious day not listed, for inclusion in future lists.

Name of Holiday	Religion	Dates
Eid al-Adha*	Islamic	July 20
Muharram (al Hijrah)	Islamic	August 9
Ashura*	Islamic	August 18
Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	August 30
Rosh Hashanah*	Jewish	September 7-8
Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	September 10
Yom Kippur*	Jewish	September 16
Sukkot*	Jewish	September 21-27
Shemini Atzeret*	Jewish	September 28
Simchat Torah*	Jewish	September 29
Navratri	Hindu	October 6-14
Indigenous Peoples' Day	Indigenous peoples and tribal nations	October 10
Dassera	Hindu	October 15
Mawlid an-Nabi	Islamic	October 18
Diwali	Hindu	November 4
Bestu Varas	Hindu	November 5
Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	November 6
Birth of Baha'u'llah	Baha'i	November 7
Chanukah*	Jewish	November 29 - December 6
Christmas Day	Christian	December 25
Kwanzaa	African American	December 26-January 1
Feast of the Nativity	Armenian Orthodox, Orthodox Christian	January 6
Pongal	Hindu	January 14
Lunar New Year	Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese	February 1
Ayyam-i-Ha	Baha'i	February 26-28
Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	February 28
Beginning of Lent, Ash Wednesday	Christian	March 2
Beginning Lent	Orthodox Christian	March 7
Purim*	Jewish	March 16
Holi	Hindu	March 17
Naw-Rúz (New Year)	Baha'i, Zoroastrian	March 21
Ramadan begins*	Islamic	April 6
Rama Navami	Hindu	April 10
Palm Sunday	Christian	April 10
Holy Thursday	Christian	April 14
Passover*	Jewish	April 15-22
Good Friday	Christian	April 15
Easter	Christian	April 17
First Day of Ridvan	Baha'i	April 19
Good Friday	Orthodox Christian	April 22
Easter	Orthodox Christian	April 24
Laila Al-Qadr*	Islamic	April 29
Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)*	Islamic	May 2
Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i	May 24
Ascension of the Baha'u'llah*	Baha'i	May 29
Shavuot*	Jewish	June 4-6

*All Jewish and Islamic holidays listed above begin at sundown on the previous day **Source: Anti-Defamation League Calendar of Observances**