

The Belmont 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 the students, families, and staff. The following list includes many of these holidays celebrated during the 2018-2019 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	August 22-25
Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	September 2
Rosh Hashanah*	Jewish	September 10-11
Muharram (al Hijrah)	Islamic	September 12
Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	September 13
Yom Kippur*	Jewish	September 19
Ashura*	Islam	September 21
Sukkot*	Jewish	September 24-30
Shemini Atzeret*	Jewish	October 1
Simchat Torah*	Jewish	October 2
Navratri	Hindu	October 10-18
Dassera	Hindu	October 19
Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	October 20
Diwali	Hindu	November 7
Bestu Varas	Hindu	November 8
Mawlid an-Nabi	Islamic	November 20
Chanukah*	Jewish	December 3 to December 10
Kwanzaa	African American	December 26 to January 1
Christmas Day	Christian	December 25
Feast of the Nativity	Armenian Orthodox, Orthodox Christian	January 7
Pongal	Hindu	January 15
World Religion Day	Baha'i	January 20
Maha Shivaratri	Hindu	March 4
Lunar New Year	Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese	February 5
Beginning of Lent, Ash Wednesday	Christian	March 6
Beginning Lent	Orthodox Christian	March 11
Purim*	Jewish	March 21
Naw-Rúz (New Year)	Baha'i	March 21
Holi	Hindu	March 20
Rama Navami	Hindu	April 14
Palm Sunday	Christian	April 14
Holy Thursday	Christian	April 18
Good Friday	Christian	April 19
Passover*	Jewish	April 20-27
Easter	Christian	April 21
Easter	Orthodox Christian	April 28
Ramadan begins*	Islamic	May 6
Declaration of the Bab	Baha'i	May 23
Ascension of the Baha'u'llah*	Baha'i	May 29
Laila Al-Qadr*	Islamic	June 1
Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)*	Islamic	June 5-7
Shavuot*	Jewish	June 9-10

*All Jewish and Islamic holidays listed above begin at sundown on the previous day

Source: Anti-Defamation League Calendar of Observances