

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

June 13, 2011

TO: ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, DIRECTORS,
PRINCIPALS, ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS, CURRICULUM
COORDINATORS, PROGRAM SUPERVISORS, LIBRARIANS,
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS AND SECRETARIES

FROM: CAROL COMEAU
SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: SPECIAL DAYS FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

The following is a list of “special days” and holidays for the 2011-2012 school year that may be of interest to you. This information was obtained from the Educational Research Service Resources for Planning the School Calendar 2011-2012. Religious holidays were confirmed by the local faith community and interfaithcalendar.org. I hope you will find this information helpful in planning activities for your students and staff.

I would request that you be sensitive to the major cultural and religious days of significance when planning all school activities.

School Board Policy 350.2 states that there shall be **NO school activities scheduled on the following cultural and religious dates of significance: New Years Day, Orthodox Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Orthodox Easter, Passover** (to begin at sundown on the preceding day through sundown on the second day), **Rosh Hashana** (to begin at sundown on the preceding day through sundown on the final day), **Yom Kippur** (to begin at sundown on the preceding day through sundown on the final day), **Eid al Fitr** ((to begin at sundown on the preceding day through sundown on the final day)), **Eid al Adha** (to begin at sundown on the preceding day through sundown on the final day), **Thanksgiving**, and **Christmas**. I have highlighted these “blackout dates” in the list below. ****Please note: The Islamic calendar is based on lunar observation. Dates may vary based on local lunar sightings. See www.alaskamasjid.com for more information**

AUGUST 2011

8/30 at sundown thru 8/31

Eid al Fitr **

SEPTEMBER 2011

9/5/

Labor Day

9/8

International Literacy Day

9/11

Patriot Day

9/15-16

Mexican Independence Days

9/15-10/15

Hispanic Heritage Month

9/16

Mayflower Day

9/17

Constitution Week and Citizenship Day

9/21

International Day of Peace

9/28 at sundown thru 9/30 at sundown

Rosh Hashanah

OCTOBER 2011

10/1-10/31

10/1-10/31

10/1-10/31

10/6

10/7 at sundown thru 10/8 at sundown

10/9

10/9-15

10/10

10/10

10/10-14

10/17-21

10/23-31

10/24

Czech Heritage Month

Italian American Heritage & Culture Month

Polish American Heritage Month

German Heritage Day

Yom Kippur

Fire Prevention Week

Nat'l Educational Office Professionals Career Awareness Wk

Canadian Thanksgiving

Columbus Day

National School Lunch Week

National School Bus Safety Week

Red Ribbon Week

United Nations Day

NOVEMBER 2011

11/1-30

11/6 at sundown thru 11/7 at sundown

11/6

11/11

11/13-19

11/16

11/17

11/24

National Native American Heritage Month

Eid al Adha**

Daylight Savings Time – move clocks back 1 hour

Veterans Day

American Education Week

Education Support Professionals Day

National Parental Involvement Day

Thanksgiving Day**DECEMBER 2011**

12/7

12/8

12/21-28

12/22

12/25

12/26-1/1/12

Pearl Harbor Day

Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Roman Catholic Holy Day)

Hanukkah

First Day of Winter

Christmas Day

Kwanzaa

JANUARY 2012**1/1**

1/1-3

1/7

1/16

1/23

New Years Day

Japanese New Year Festivities

Orthodox Christmas Day

Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance

Chinese New Year – Year of the Dragon

FEBRUARY 2012

2/1-29

2/6-10

2/16

2/17

2/20

2/22

2/22-4/7

2/27-4/14

National African American History Month

National School Counseling Week

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day

National PTA Founders Day

Presidents' Day

Ash Wednesday (First Day of Lent)

Lent (observed by Christian churches)

Orthodox Lent

MARCH 2012

3/1-31	Irish American Heritage Month
3/1-31	Music in Our Schools Month
3/1-31	National Nutrition Month
3/1-31	Youth Art Month
3/1-31	Women's History Month
3/1-31	National Middle Level Education Month
3/2	NEA's Read Across America
3/5-9	National School Breakfast Week
3/5-9	National Foreign Language Week
3/11	Daylight Saving Time (advance clock 1 hour)
3/15	Absolutely Incredible kid Day
3/17	Camp Fire USA Birthday
3/17	St. Patrick's Day
3/20	First Day of Spring
3/21	Bahá'í New Year's Day
3/26	Seward's Day

APRIL 2012

4/6 at sundown thru 4/8 at sundown

Passover lasts 7 days (while some observe 8), however our local Jewish community considers the first 2 days the most important for seders.

4/6

Good Friday

4/8

Easter

4/15

Orthodox Easter/Pascha

4/15-4/21

National Public School Volunteer Week

4/17-23

National Student Leadership Week

4/18 at sundown thru 4/19

Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)

4/24-4/30

Administrative Professionals Week

4/25

Administrative Professionals Day

MAY 2012

5/5

Cinco de Mayo

5/6

National Music Week

5/6-12

Teacher Appreciation Week

5/7-11

School Nutrition Employee Week

5/8

National Teacher Day

5/9

National School Nurse Day

5/17

Last Day of School