School Year 2022 - 2023
NBPS Religious and Cultural Observances

2022 OBSERVANCES

Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 25 - Tuesday, September 27 (SUNDOWN TO SUNDOWN)
The Jewish New Year celebration, marking the creation of the world.

Yom Kippur
Tuesday, October 4 – Wednesday, October 5 (SUNDOWN TO SUNDOWN)
The holiest day on the Jewish calendar, a day of atonement marked by fasting and ceremonial repentance.

Sukkot
Sunday, October 9 – Sunday, October 16
A seven-day Jewish festival giving thanks for the fall harvest.

Diwali
Monday, October 24
The Hindu, Jain and Sikh five-day festival of lights celebrates new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and lightness over darkness

Chanukah/Hanukkah
Sunday, December 18 – Monday, December 26
A Jewish holiday that is celebrated around the world for eight days and nights. Hanukkah celebrates the victory of the Maccabees, or Israelites, over the Greek-Syrian ruler, Antiochus, approximately 2,200 years ago.

Kwanzaa
Monday, December 26 – Sunday, January 1
An African-American holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 to celebrate universal African-American heritage.

2023 OBSERVANCES

Lunar New Year (DUE TO LUNAR CALENDAR THIS IS AN APPROXIMATE DATE)
Sunday, January 22
One of the most sacred of all traditional Chinese holidays, a time of family reunion and celebration. The Lunar New Year is also celebrated in China, Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia and Mongolia to name a few countries.

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 22
The first day of Lent on the Christian calendar. Its name is derived from the symbolic use of ashes to signify penitence. It takes place immediately after the excesses of the two days of Carnival that take place in Northern Europe and parts of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Ramadan

Wednesday, March 22 – Friday, April 21 (SUNDOWN TO SUNDOWN)

An Islamic holy month marked by fasting, praise, prayer, charity, and devotion to Islam. The holy month is a time meant for reflection, peace and getting closer to God *(Please be mindful of food related and vigorous activities for students who are observing).*

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2

A Christian holiday commemorating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It is the last Sunday of Lent and the beginning of the Holy Week.

Good Friday

Friday, April 7

A day celebrated by Christians to commemorate the execution of Jesus by crucifixion. It is recognized on the Friday before Easter.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9

A holiday celebrated by Christians to recognize Jesus' return from death after the Crucifixion.

Eid al-Fitr

Friday, April 21 – Saturday, April 22

The first day of the Islamic month of Shawwal, marking the end of Ramadan. Many Muslims attend communal prayers, listen to a khutuba (sermon), and give Zakat al-Fitr (charity in the form of food) during Eid al-Fitr.

Passover

Wednesday, April 5 – Thursday, April 13

An eight-day Jewish holiday and festival in commemoration of the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt.

Orthodox Good Friday

Friday, April 14

Is a day of celebrating for Orthodox Christians the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Orthodox Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 16

(also called Pascha), a later Easter date than observed by many Western churches.

Shavuot

Thursday, May 25 – Saturday, May 27 (SUNDOWN TO SUNDOWN)

A Jewish holiday that has double significance. It marks the all-important wheat harvest in Israel and commemorates the anniversary of the day when God gave the Torah to the nation of Israel assembled at Mount Sinai.

Eid al-Adha

Wednesday, June 28 – Thursday, June 29

The Feast of Sacrifice