



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDUM

TITLE: Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances, School Year 2020-21

NUMBER: MEM-5466.10

ISSUER: Pia V. Escudero
Executive Director
Student Health and Human Services

DATE: August 11, 2020

ROUTING
All Schools
All Employees

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to assist in the planning of school and work events. The increasingly pluralistic population of the United States creates diverse working and learning communities. This Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances is offered as a tool to enhance understanding, respect, awareness among various religious, ethnic and cultural groups in our school communities, to be a resource for schools to incorporate these dates into their instructional activities, and for reference in scheduling school activities.

BACKGROUND: The Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances draws from multiple sources, including the California Department of Education, LAUSD Board Rule 1102, and specific Board of Education resolutions identifying the events, and cultural, religious, and community calendars. This calendar is based on information available at the time of production. Ultimately, some events may differ from what was available at the time of authorship. Inclusion does not imply official endorsement by Los Angeles Unified. Similarly, omissions are not intended to be exclusionary in nature.

Lessons are to be age appropriate, and taught in a historical and social studies context, as set forth in the [California History/Social Science Framework](#). Schools are expected to teach about any religion in a neutral, prudent and objective manner. The 1963 Supreme Court clarified public schools’ role in the objective teaching about religion, “... it might well be said that one's education is not complete without a study of comparative religion or the history of religion and its relationship to the advancement of civilization,” School District of Abington Township, Pennsylvania v. Schempp (No. 142) (1963) 374 U.S. 203, 225.

MAJOR CHANGES: This memorandum replaces MEM-5466.9 Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances, School Year 2019 – 2020.



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INSTRUCTIONS: Schools should commemorate the events noted by California Education Code and LAUSD Board Rule 1102. Schools may recognize the holidays and dates with culturally relevant and responsive lessons, activities, projects, and assemblies that connect to the core curriculum. When the dates fall on non-school days or conflict with school activities (such as during testing), observances may be held on an alternate day.

RELATED

RESOURCES:

- [Board Rule 1102](#), Observance of Certain Events
- [California Department of Education](#) Calendar of Events
- [California Education Codes §§37220-37223](#), Saturdays and Holidays
- [California Education Code §51511](#), References to Religion and use of Religious Literature
- [California Government Code §6700](#), State Legal Holidays
- California History Social Science Framework
- [BUL-5298.2](#) Guidelines for Halloween Activities, dated September 25, 2016, issued by Office of the Division of District Operations
- [BUL-5479.2](#) Guidelines for Teaching About Religions, dated April 11, 2016, issued by School Operations and Office of Educational Services
- [REF-5464.6](#) Initial Notification of Truancy (1st NOT) Report Central Automation and School Generated (2nd and 3rd NOT) Procedures, published August 11, 2017, Student Health and Human Services
- [BUL-6204.2](#) Holiday Displays and Programs, dated November 21, 2017, issued by the Division of District Operations
- [BUL-6285.0](#) Guidelines for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Inclusive Education, dated May 12, 2014, issued by the Office of the Superintendent-School Operations
- [MEM-5415](#) Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day (updated annually)
- [MEM-6544](#) Observance of Constitution Day (updated annually)

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A- Calendar of Commemorative Dates and Observances

ASSISTANCE: Instructional resources and support may be obtained from several LAUSD units
[Access Equity and Acceleration](#), achieve.lausd.net/aea
[Division of Instruction](#), 213-241-6444 or instruction@lausd.net
[Educational Equity Compliance Office](#), 213-241-7682 or
EquityCompliance@lausd.net
[Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department](#), <http://mmed.lausd.net>,
213-242-5582

For further assistance, information, or errors of omission or commission, please contact Student Health and Human Services - Human Relations, Diversity and Equity at (213) 241-8719, Judy.Chiasson@lausd.net.