

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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**Policy Implementation Procedure I-4.30 PIP-1 School Year Calendar**

**Calendar Development**

The Calendar Committee will meet 2-3 times each Fall, or as needed. The Committee will be formed each year and will be appointed and chaired by the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources or designee. The Calendar Committee will be composed of no less than 15 and no more than 20 members and will include community representation from central office staff, principals, teachers, families, the County Council of PTAs (CCPTA), any Employee Associations that have been certified as the Exclusive Representative for one or more bargaining units, and any other representative(s) deemed appropriate by the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources or designee.

At the first meeting of the Calendar Committee, policies and guidelines will be reviewed. At the second meeting, staff will present calendar options to the Committee for consideration. Following the second or subsequent meeting(s), the Superintendent's Cabinet will consider calendar options, along with the Committee's input. More Committee meetings may be called after this, if necessary. The calendar will be made in accordance with Policy I-4.30 School Year Calendar.

Following this process, the Superintendent or designee will present a proposed calendar to the Arlington School Board for consideration.

If an Alternative Make-Up Day Plan is required during the school year, the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources or designee will develop such a plan and present it to the School Board for consideration.

**Cultural Observance Days**

Certain days will be considered Cultural Observance Days. While school may still be held on these days, Arlington Public Schools should not have field trips, school pictures, guest speakers, sporting contests/competitions, school-sponsored special events and activities (e.g. prom, back-to-school nights, town halls), auditions, tryouts, safety drills that occur 1-2 times a year, professional development activities, or other conferences. Any students who miss a test, quiz, or summative assessment due to a Cultural Observance Day will be given the opportunity to take it afterwards without penalty. Students observing Cultural Observance days will be given additional time for any assignments due in accordance with Policy Implementation Procedure I-11.2 PIP-1 Homework. Arlington Public Schools will provide the list of all Cultural Observance Days to all staff, students, and families.

1. All Saints Day/Dia de los Muertos
2. Bodi Day
3. Three Kings Day/Epiphany
4. Orthodox Epiphany
5. First Full Day of Ramadan (begins at sundown)
6. Lunar New year/Chinese New Year
7. Mongolian New Year
8. Second Day of Rosh Hashanah (begins at sundown)
9. First and Second day of Passover (begins at sundown)
10. First and Second day of Sukkot (begins at sundown)
11. Simchat Torah (begins at sundown)

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12. Shavuot (begins at sundown)
13. Ash Wednesday
14. Orthodox Christmas
15. Orthodox Epiphany
16. Orthodox Good Friday
17. Theravada New Year

Students may have Cultural Observance Days beyond those on this list. Those days must be honored by staff if associated with a sincerely held religious belief. If a student has a Cultural Observance Day not listed above, their family should notify the student's teachers and principal well in advance of that day.

### **Islamic Holidays**

In the weeks leading up to Eid al Fitr and Eid al Adha, the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources or designee will communicate with leaders in the Muslim community to determine when each of those holidays will take place.

### **Communication with Schools**

The Chief of School Support or designee will work with principals to ensure schools do not schedule any events, activities, or meetings during any holidays, potential holidays, or Cultural Observance Days or, in the case of holidays or Cultural Observance Days that begin at sundown, the evening before any holidays, potential holidays, or Cultural Observance Days.

### **References**

Policy Implementation Procedure G-1.32 PIP-1 Holidays

### **Policy Implementation Procedure Adoption and Revision History**

Adopted September 7, 2023

Revised September 9, 2025. Effective September 9, 2025