

# Holiday/Homework Calendar Summary Document

## Recommendation of the Policy Subcommittee:

Starting with the 2023-24 School Year:

- Add Diwali and Eid el Fitr as Religious Holidays that are observed in the NPS Calendar as a day off of school.
- Identify additional Cultural and Religious Holidays where school will be open and where accommodations will be made upon request:
  - Consider for future action making Good Friday (Roman) a ½ day and adding a second ½ day for Orthodox Good Friday.
  - Examine how the school calendar could be adjusted rather than adding days to June - For example look at the beginning of the School Year, NILs or other professional development days.
- Make a plan to limit the socio-economic impact to families on all Religious Holidays - for example explore ASAP open on these days, community service days, PTO partnership with the district, Recreation and Parks Partnership etc.
- Evaluate how cultural observances are currently included or not in the curriculum and whether/how an expansion of the cultural knowledge of our students and staff is necessary. With Administration, design a process that will be conducive for such an evaluation.
- Recommend the School Committee revisit the calendar decision in five years while periodically reviewing the impact of this policy.

## Value Statement

An essential value of our district is the continued desire to honor belonging. As such, our recommendation is founded on the importance of recognizing the cultural diversity within our district. When our students are seen, known and valued, each is more likely to be successful. While the integrity of the curriculum is vital, our recommendation and its nuances seek to balance the impact of these changes on the schedule of the school year.

## Documents and findings throughout the process:

[Timeline](#) of work by the Subcommittee

Link to the Administration's most recent [proposal on Holidays and Cultural Observances](#)

[Other Districts Calendar Summary](#)

[Link to Notes from Meetings Oct 2021 - Dec 2022](#)

[Link to a List of Significant Religious and Cultural Holidays](#)

[Alternative Scenarios Considered](#)

[Advantages and Disadvantages considering Federal/State Only vs. Inclusion](#)

[Listening Session Slide Show](#)

[Notes from the Slide Show](#)