



2022-2023

Holidays and Cultural Observances

Ellington Public Schools encourages all students and staff to appreciate and be respectful of each other's heritage and cultural diversity. The following is a list of dates for secular holidays as well as other festivals and holy days observed in the Ellington community.

Holidays in red denote days on which schools are closed.

2022-2023 Dates	Holiday/Observance <i>Religion/Holiday - Description</i>
September 5, 2022	Labor Day <i>U.S. Holiday - Celebrated the first Monday in September in recognition of U.S. workers.</i>
September 26, 2022	Rosh Hashanah * <i>Jewish - Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days; marks the beginning of a 10-day period of repentance and spiritual renewal.</i>
October 5, 2022	Yom Kippur * <i>Jewish - The holiest day in Judaism – the “Day of Atonement” marks the end of the Ten Days of Repentance that begin with Rosh Hashanah.</i>
October 12, 2022	Columbus Day
October 24, 2022	Diwali <i>Hindu - “Festival of Lights” is the most important Hindu festival of the year and the beginning of a five-day period which honors various Hindu gods and goddesses. It celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.</i>
November 11, 2022	Veterans Day <i>U.S. Holiday - Honors the U.S. Armed Services and commemorates the war dead.</i>
November 24, 2022	Thanksgiving Day <i>U.S. Holiday - Following a 19th century tradition, it commemorates the Pilgrims harvest feast in the autumn of 1621.</i>
December 18-26, 2022	Hanukkah * <i>Jewish - Eight-day holiday commemorating the victory of the Jews, led by the Maccabees, over the Greeks in 165 B.C.E and the rededication of the temple.</i>
December 25, 2022	Christmas <i>Christian (U.S. Holiday) - Celebration of the birth of Jesus by Protestants and Roman Catholics.</i>
December 26, 2022 – January 1, 2023	Kwanzaa <i>African American - The celebration honors African heritage in African-American culture, and is observed from December 26 to January 1, culminating in a feast and gift-giving.</i>
January 1, 2023	New Year's Day <i>U.S. Holiday - The first day of the year in the Gregorian calendar.</i>
January 6, 2023	Three Kings Day <i>Christian - Western church associated Three Kings Day with the journey of the Magi to the infant Jesus; the Eastern church, with the baptism of Jesus by John.</i>
January 16, 2023	Martin Luther King Jr. Day <i>U.S. Holiday - The birthday of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is celebrated on the third Monday in January.</i>

* All Jewish and Islamic holidays begin at sundown on the previous day.

Sources: Diversity.umn.edu; Anti-Defamation League (ADL); Yale University

2022-2023 Dates	Holiday/Observance <i>Religion/Holiday - Description</i>
February 20, 2023	President's Day <i>U.S. Holiday - Honors all past presidents of the United States of America.</i>
March 8, 2023	Holi <i>Hindu - Hindu annual festival that celebrates spring and commemorates various events in Hindu mythology.</i>
March 22 – April 21, 2023	Ramadan (Beginning) * <i>Islamic - A month of strict fasting from dawn until dusk in honor of the first revelations of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad.</i>
April 5 - 13, 2023	Passover * <i>Jewish - Eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. The first two days of Passover are usually considered the most important days of the period.</i>
April 7, 2023	Good Friday <i>Christian - Friday preceding Easter Sunday; commemorates the day of Jesus' crucifixion.</i>
April 9, 2023	Easter <i>Christian - Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. Easter falls at some point between late March and late April each year.</i>
April 16, 2023	Greek Orthodox Easter
April 22, 2023	Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan) * <i>Islamic - The "Feast of the Breaking of the Fast" marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting from dawn until dusk.</i>
May 29, 2023	Memorial Day <i>U.S. Holiday - Initiated originally to honor the dead of the Civil War, this observance now pays homage to the dead of all U.S. wars.</i>

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