

2016–17 IMPORTANT & INTERESTING DATES

JUNE–JULY 2016

Ramadan

Sunset June 5–July 5

Ramadan is the Islamic holy month during which Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset each day. The holiest period of Islam, it honors the revelation of the Quran.

Independence Day

July 4

Eid al-Fitr

July 6

Muslim day of feasting to celebrate the end of Ramadan.

AUGUST 2016

Teachers Report for Duty

August 30

SEPTEMBER 2016

Library Card Sign-Up Month

September 1–30

Established by Congress as an annual reminder to ensure all children have library cards. A library card is the most important school supply of all!

www.ala.org

Labor Day

September 5

An annual holiday to honor working people. Labor Day has its origins in the labor union movement, specifically the eight-hour day movement, which advocated eight hours for work, eight hours for recreation, and eight hours for rest.

Classes Begin — All Students Except Returning 7th & 8th Grade Students

September 7

Classes Begin — Returning 7th & 8th Grade Students

September 8

International Literacy Day

September 8

A day to highlight the importance of reading, particularly from a multicultural, international perspective.

www.reading.org

Eid al-Adha

September 13

Muslim holy day known as the Feast of Sacrifice, marking the end of the Pilgrimage.

Mexican Independence Days**September 15–16**

Mexican national holiday to celebrate Mexico's independence from Spain.

National Hispanic Heritage Month**Sept. 15–Oct. 15**

Celebrates the rich heritage of Hispanic Americans and the many contributions they have made to American culture.

Constitution Week, September 17–23**Citizenship Day, Sept. 17**

After framing the Constitution, the Constitutional Convention adjourned on September 17, 1787. The proposed document then was sent to Congress and the states for ratification.

International Day of Peace**September 21**

Devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples.

www.un.org/events/peaceday

First Day of Autumn (Autumnal Equinox)**September 22****Anniversary of School Desegregation Order Enforced****September 24**

On this date in 1957, nine black students first attended the previously all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. They were escorted by federal troops to enforce a court order.

National Good Neighbor Day**September 28**

Intended to help create a greater understanding and concern for others and develop values in children by giving them a tradition of caring.

OCTOBER 2016**Rosh Hashanah****Sunset on October 2 to Sunset on October 4**

Jewish New Year and holy days. The first of the High Holy Days marked by solemn religious observance.

International Walk and Bike to School Day**October 5**

Parents and kids statewide are encouraged to join millions around the world who will improve their health and their community—and have a ton of fun—by walking or rolling to school on October 5.

www.walkbiketoschool.org

Fire Prevention Week**October 9–15**

www.nfpa.org

Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 12

Columbus Day is a day to honor all explorers and to commemorate Columbus's sighting of the New World on October 12, 1492. Per ORS 336.010, a portion of the day shall be set apart and observed in the public schools by appropriate activities.

National School Lunch Week

October 10–14

www.schoolnutrition.org/nslw

Yom Kippur

Sunset on October 11 to Sunset on October 12

Jewish holy day devoted to prayer, fasting and repentance.

National School Bus Safety Week

October 17–21

www.napt.org

Red Ribbon Week

October 23–31

Red ribbons are worn and displayed to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a Drug-Free America.

www.redribbon.org

Halloween

October 31

NOVEMBER 2016

National Native American Heritage Month

November 1–30

A time to remember the contributions of Native Americans and Alaska Natives and to honor the unique heritage of our continent's first inhabitants.

Standard Time

November 6

Set clocks back one hour at 2:00 a.m. ("Fall Back")

Election Day

November 8

Veterans Day

November 11

American Education Week

November 14–18

www.nea.org/aew

National Parental Involvement Day

November 17

www.projectappleseed.org

Thanksgiving Day
November 24

Treaty of Calapooia Creek, Oregon Territory, 1854
November 29

Date of treaty in which the Umpqua and Kalapuyan tribes of the Umpqua Valley ceded their lands to the U.S. government. (See also Treaty with the Confederated Bands of Kalapuya, January 22.)

DECEMBER 2016

Winter Break
December 19–January 2

First Day of Winter (Winter Solstice)
December 21

Hanukkah
Sunset on December 24 to Sunset on January 1

Hanukkah (or Chanukah), the Jewish Festival of Lights, lasts for eight days and nights. Primarily a children's festival, it is a time for fun, songs, games and gift-giving.

Christmas Day
December 25

Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Christ.

Kwanzaa
December 26–January 1

Seven-day African American spiritual festival dedicated to seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

JANUARY 2017

New Year's Day
January 1

Epiphany / Twelfth Night / Three Kings' Day / Día de los Tres Reyes Magos
January 6 (may be observed on Sunday, January 8)

Christian holiday observed in various ways around the globe. Celebrates three wise men and the end of the 12 days of Christmas.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance
January 16

The civil rights leader, minister, and winner of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize was born on January 15, 1929, and assassinated on April 4, 1968, at the age of 39. Per ORS 336.010, on Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthdate, January 15, a portion of the day shall be set apart and observed in public schools by appropriate activities.

4J Elementary School Showcase
January 21

Annual one-stop information fair for parents considering their elementary school choice options. Each elementary school has a table staffed by the principal and one or two other representatives to talk with parents about their school.

www.4j.lane.edu/choice

Treaty with the Confederated Bands of Kalapuya (a.k.a. Willamette Valley Treaty), Oregon Territory, 1855

January 22

Date of the treaty in which the Kalapuya and other tribes ceded the Willamette Valley to the U.S. government. The treaty was ratified by Congress in March 1855. The native people of the Willamette Valley were forcibly removed to Grand Ronde Encampment and other reservations the following winter.

4J School Choice Visitation Week

January 23–27

During the two school choice visitation weeks in January and February, and ONLY during these weeks, every 4J school offers times for parents considering their school choice options to visit the school.

www.4j.lane.edu/choice

Lunar New Year

January 28

In several cultures, the new year is based on the Chinese calendar. Related new year holidays include Chinese, Korean (Seollal), Vietnamese (Tết), Tibetan (Losar) and Mongolian Lunar New Year (Tsagaan Sar).

FEBRUARY 2017

National African American History Month

February 1–28

This month-long celebration is a time to reflect on the history, teachings and achievements of African Americans.

National School Counseling Week

February 6–10

www.schoolcounselor.org

Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

February 12

Per ORS 336.010, a portion of the day shall be set apart and observed in the public schools by appropriate activities.

Valentine's Day

February 14

Oregon Statehood

February 14

Oregon was admitted into the Union on February 14, 1859. Per ORS 336.010, a portion of the day shall be set apart and observed in the public schools by appropriate activities.

Susan B. Anthony's Birthday

February 15

Susan B. Anthony, a prominent crusader for abolition of slavery and for women's rights, lived 1820–1906.

National PTA Founders Day

February 17

An occasion to mark the work of the PTA or PTO.

www.pta.org

**Presidents Day
February 20**

**Frederick Douglass Day
February 20**

African American journalist and antislavery leader Frederick Douglass died on this date in 1895. His birthdate is unknown.

**4J School Choice Visitation Week
February 21–24**

During the two school choice visitation weeks in January and February, and ONLY during these weeks, every 4J school offers times for parents considering their school choice options to visit the school.
www.4j.lane.edu/choice

**George Washington’s Birthday
February 22**

Per ORS 336.010, a portion of the day shall be set apart and observed in the public schools by appropriate activities.

**W.E.B. DuBois’ Birthday
February 23**

Scholar, social critic, and African American leader W.E.B. DuBois lived 1868–1963.

**Mardi Gras
February 28**

Last feast before the Christian season of Lent. Also called Shrove Tuesday.

**School Choice Application Deadline for District Residents
February 28, 5 p.m.**

www.4j.lane.edu/choice

MARCH 2017

**Music in Our Schools Month
March 1–31**

www.nafme.org

**National Nutrition Month
March 1–31**

www.eatright.org

**Youth Art Month
March 1–31**

www.acminet.org

**Women’s History Month, March 1–31
International Women’s Day, March 8**

March is proclaimed by Congress as a month to celebrate the rich and inspiring heritage of women’s contributions to the United States. International Women’s Day was established in the early 1900s as a day to honor working women.

www.nwhp.org

Ash Wednesday**March 1**

Ash Wednesday is the first day of the Christian season of Lent, a period of fasting and penitence, which concludes the day before Easter in most denominations that observe it.

NEA's Read Across America**March 2**

www.nea.org/readacross

Classified Employees Week**March 6–10**

www.osea.org

Daylight Saving Time**March 12**

Set clocks forward one hour at 2:00 a.m. ("Spring Forward")

St. Patrick's Day**March 17****National Poison Prevention Week****March 19–25**

www.poisonprevention.org

First Day of Spring (Vernal Equinox)**March 20****Spring Break****March 27–31****APRIL 2017****Open Enrollment Application Deadline for Out-of-District Residents****April 1, 5 p.m.**

www.4j.lane.edu/choice

National Poetry Month**April 1–30**

www.poets.org/npm

Celebration of Buddha's Birthday**April 8**

The founder of Buddhism lived 563–480 B.C.E.

National Library Week**April 9–15****Passover (Pesach)****Sunset on April 10–sunset on April 18**

First Days are sunset on April 10 to April 12; Concluding Days are sunset on April 16 to April 18. Jewish festival marking the deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

Good Friday**April 14**

Christian holiday commemorating the crucifixion. Observed on the Friday before Easter Sunday.

Easter**April 16**

Christian celebration of Christ's resurrection. Observed the first Sunday following the first full moon that occurs on or after the vernal equinox.

Orthodox Easter**April 16**

Called Pascha, observed by Eastern Orthodox and Greek Orthodox churches.

Earth Day**April 22**

Since 1970, Earth Day has been celebrated each year on April 22 to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment.

www.earthday.org

William Shakespeare's Birthday**April 23**

Shakespeare was born on this date in 1564 and died on the same date in 1616.

Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah)**Sunset on April 23 to Sunset on April 24****National Volunteer Week****April 23–29****ACE Awards Ceremony****April 25, 5–7:30 p.m.**

Annual awards program honoring teachers and licensed specialists, classified staff, administrators and volunteers in the three metro school districts. The ACE Awards are a collaborative effort of the Eugene and Springfield Chambers of Commerce and the Eugene, Bethel, and Springfield school districts.

Administrative Professionals Day**April 26**

www.iaap-hq.org/events/adminday

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**April 27**

www.daughtersandsonstowork.org

National Arbor Day**April 28**

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. It is celebrated on the last Friday in April. Arbor Week is the first full week in April.

www.arborday.org

MAY 2017

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May 1–31

A time to celebrate the collective accomplishments of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, who comprise many ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, histories, languages and cultures.

National Physical Fitness & Sports Month

May 1–31

www.fitness.gov

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 1–5

National Teacher Day, May 2

www.nea.org/teacherday

National Children’s Book Week

May 1–7

www.bookweekonline.com

Cinco de Mayo

May 5

Anniversary of the Mexican victory over the French army in the Battle of Puebla in 1862. (NOT Mexico’s Independence Day, which is September 15–16.)

School Lunch Hero Day

May 5

www.schoolnutrition.org/slhd

National School Nurse Day

May 10

www.nasn.org

Mother’s Day

May 14

Anniversary of School Desegregation Ruling

May 17

On this date in 1954, racial segregation in public schools was unanimously ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka*.

Armed Forces Day

May 20

First proclaimed in 1950 to honor men and women in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard.

National Educational Bosses' Week

May 21–27

www.naeop.org

Memorial Day

May 29

A day of remembrance for those who have died serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

MAY–JUNE 2017

Ramadan

Sunset May 26 - June 25

Ramadan is the Islamic holy month during which Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset each day. The holiest period of Islam, it honors the revelation of the Quran.

JUNE–JULY 2017

Flag Day

June 14

Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the U.S. flag by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777.

Father’s Day

June 18

Juneteenth

June 19

“Juneteenth” commemorates the emancipation of African Americans in Texas in 1865, 2½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation ordered the abolition of slavery.

First Day of Summer

June 21

FALL 2017

First Day of School

September 6

Planning Ahead: Major Holidays in 2017–18 and 2018–19

2017–18

Independence Day	Tuesday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, Sept. 4
First Day of School	Wednesday, Sept. 6
Rosh Hashanah	Wednesday, Sept. 20*
Yom Kippur	Friday, Sept. 29*
Election Day	Tuesday, Nov. 7
Veterans Day.....	Saturday, Nov. 11 ††
Thanksgiving	Thursday, Nov. 23
Christmas	Monday, Dec. 25
New Year’s Day	Monday, Jan. 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, Jan. 15
Presidents Day	Monday, Feb. 19
Passover.....	Friday, Mar. 30*
Easter	Sunday, April 1
Ramadan	May 15–June 14
Memorial Day	Monday, May 28

2018–19

Independence Day	Wednesday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, Sept. 3
Possible First Day of School (unconfirmed)	Wed., Sept. 5
Rosh Hashanah	Sunday, Sept. 9*
Yom Kippur.....	Tuesday, Sept. 18*
Election Day	Tuesday, Nov. 6
Veterans Day.....	Sunday, Nov. 11†
Thanksgiving	Thursday, Nov. 22
Christmas	Tuesday, Dec. 25
New Year’s Day	Tuesday, Jan. 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, Jan. 20
Presidents Day	Monday, Feb. 18
Passover	Friday, April 19*
Easter	Sunday, April 21
Ramadan	May 5–June 4
Memorial Day	Monday, May 27

*Jewish holidays begin at sunset the evening before the date listed. The first day of the holiday is shown.

†Legal holiday observed on the following Monday.

††Legal holiday observed on the preceding Friday.

Reference: “Resources for Planning the School Calendar 2016–2017”
Educational Research Service, www.ers.org