

# CALENDAR OF JEWISH HOLIDAYS

## 2021-2022 5782

### DESCRIPTION OF OBSERVANCE

There are three major branches within Judaism: Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform. All three consider the holy days to be special religious events. Each has its own practice of observance regarding work and school on holy days. As a result, the number of days which a holy day may be observed varies from person to person.

**The Jewish Sabbath (Shabbat) begins each week before sunset on Friday and ends after sunset on Saturday.**

**All Jewish holidays begin before sunset of the previous evening. It is important that schools avoid conflicts on the eve and the day of the holiday.**

**STUDENTS AND STAFF WILL PROBABLY BE ABSENT FOR THESE HOLY DAYS, AND SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO PREPARE ASSIGNMENTS OR FOR EXAMS.**

### ROSH HASHANAH – Jewish New Year

*Sunset Monday evening – September 6, 2021 through sunset Wednesday – September 8, 2021*

Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the Jewish year. It is the first of the High Holy Days and marks the start of the ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.

### YOM KIPPUR – Day of Atonement

*Sunset Wednesday evening – September 15, 2021 through Thursday evening – September 16, 2021*

This is the most holy day in the Jewish year. It is devoted to fasting and prayer, as people ask G-d and each other for forgiveness.

### PASSOVER (Seders – first two evenings) – Festival of Freedom

*Sunset Friday evening, April 15, 2022 (First Seder) and sunset Saturday evening, April 16, 2022 (Second Seder). (First two days: sunset April 15 through sunset April 17. Full Passover holiday sunset April 15 through sunset April 23, 2022).*

**The Seder is a family ritual service that occurs on the first two evenings of Passover. Students should not be expected to prepare assignments or for exams on these nights.** The first two and last two days of Passover are holy days, when students and staff may be absent. Passover celebrates the liberation of the Jews from Egyptian bondage. During this eight-day holiday, many Jews refrain from eating bread products and eat matzah (unleavened bread) instead.

### STUDENTS AND STAFF MAY BE ABSENT FOR THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS:

#### SUKKOT – First two days

*Sunset Monday evening – September 20, 2021 through sunset Wednesday – September 22, 2021*

Sukkot is the Jewish festival of thanksgiving and harvest.

#### SHEMINI ATZERET

*Sunset Monday evening – September 27, 2021 through sunset Tuesday – September 28, 2021*

Shemini Atzeret is the eighth day of Sukkot, on which special memorial prayers are said.

#### SIMCHAT TORAH

*Sunset Tuesday evening – September 28, 2021 through sunset Wednesday – September 29, 2021*

Simchat Torah celebrates the conclusion of the yearly cycle of reading the Five Books of Moses and its beginning anew, thus demonstrating that study is a never-ending process.

#### PASSOVER – Last two days

*Sunset Thursday evening – April 21, 2022 through sunset Saturday – April 23, 2022*

*(full Passover holiday sunset April 15-April 23, 2022- see above)*

The last two days of Passover conclude the celebration of Passover.

#### SHAVUOT

*Sunset Saturday evening – June 4, 2022 through sunset Monday – June 6, 2022*

Shavuot celebrates the covenant established at Mount Sinai between G-d and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.

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### FESTIVALS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE MISSING WORK OR SCHOOL:

**HANUKKAH** – The eight-day Festival of Lights

*Sunset Sunday evening - November 28, 2021 through sunset Monday - December 6, 2021*

Hanukkah celebrates the triumph of religious liberty and the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees in 165 BCE.

**PURIM** – Feast of Lots

*Sunset Wednesday evening - March 16, 2022 through sunset Friday - March 18, 2022*

A joyous festival commemorating the time when the Jews of ancient Persia were saved from extermination through the intervention of Queen Esther.

## TWO-YEAR CALENDAR OF MAJOR JEWISH HOLIDAYS

### 2022-2023 5783

### 2023-2024 5784

<b>ROSH HASHANAH</b>	<b>Sept. 25-27, 2022 (sunset Sun.–sunset Tues.)</b>	<b>Sept. 15-17, 2023 (sunset Fri.–sunset Sun.)</b>
<b>YOM KIPPUR</b>	<b>Oct. 4-5, 2022 (sunset Tues.–Wed. evening)</b>	<b>Sept. 24-25, 2023 (sunset Sun.–Mon. evening)</b>
<b>Sukkot</b> (First 2 days)	Oct. 9-11, 2022 (sunset Sun.–sunset Tues.)	Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2023 (sunset Fri.–sunset Sun.)
<b>Shemini Atzeret</b>	Oct. 16-17, 2022 (sunset Sun.–sunset Mon.)	Oct. 6-7, 2023 (sunset Fri.–sunset Sat.)
<b>Simchat Torah</b>	Oct. 17-18, 2022 (sunset Mon.–sunset Tues.)	Oct. 7-8, 2023 (sunset Sat.–sunset Sun.)
<b>Hanukkah</b>	Dec. 18-26, 2022 (sunset Sun.–sunset Mon.)	Dec. 7-15, 2023 (sunset Thurs.–sunset Fri.)
<b>Purim</b>	March 6-7, 2023 (sunset Mon.–sunset Tues.)	March 23-24, 2024 (sunset Sat.–sunset Sun.)
<b>PASSOVER</b> (First 2 days)	<b>April 5-7, 2023 (sunset Wed.–sunset Fri.)</b>	<b>April 22-24, 2024 (sunset Mon.–sunset Wed.)</b>
<b>Passover</b> (Last 2 days)	April 11-13, 2023 (sunset Tues.–sunset Thurs.)	April 28-30, 2024 (sunset Sun.–sunset Tues.)
<b>Shavuot</b>	May 25-27, 2023 (sunset Thurs.–sunset Sat.)	June 11-13, 2024 (sunset Tues.–sunset Thurs.)

### WE WANT TO HELP

We provide this information to familiarize area educators with the major holidays of the Jewish faith. We hope it will be valuable to you in understanding Jewish holiday observances and their effect on student and staff absences and classroom planning.

**PLEASE CALL US FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE JEWISH CALENDAR OR RELATED SUBJECTS.**

**JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS BUREAU|AJC**

SERVING KANSAS AND WESTERN MISSOURI