



**BAYONNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Office of the Superintendent**  
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**JOHN J. NIESZ**  
***Superintendent***

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

On behalf of the Bayonne School District we would like to provide the information about religious holidays and pupil absence. In New Jersey there are many religious holidays that are recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education. Below are some reminders about religious holidays permitting pupil absence. There is also a link at the bottom of this page to the website that lists all of the holidays that are recognized by the State of New Jersey Department of Education.

The List of Religious Holidays Permitting Student Absence from School whereas, according to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14 through 16 and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3(j), regarding student absence from school because of religious holidays, the Acting Commissioner of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Education, is charged with the responsibility of prescribing such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of the law; and Whereas, the law provides that:

- Any student absent from school because of a religious holiday may not be deprived of any award or of eligibility or opportunity to compete for any award because of such absence;
- Students who miss a test or examination because of absence on a religious holiday must be given the right to take an alternate test or examination;
- To be entitled to the privileges set forth above, the student must present a written excuse signed by a parent or person standing in place of a parent;
- Any absence because of a religious holiday must be recorded in the school register or in any group or class attendance record as an excused absence;
- Such absence must not be recorded on any transcript or application or employment form

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please contact your child's guidance counselor, teacher or principal. We are committed to providing all of our students with a great educational experience.

If you would like to review the list of religious holidays permitting pupil absence please visit <https://www.nj.gov/education/holidays.shtml>

Sincerely,

John J. Niesz  
Superintendent

*"The Youth of Today. The Leaders of Tomorrow."*