NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

January 1, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Among your student population are one or more members of the Bahá'í Faith, on whose behalf we respectfully request permission for them to be excused from school on the Bahá'í Holy Days. These special days are associated with significant events in the lives of Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, and the Báb, its Herald. For the 2025–26 school year, these dates are as follows:

October 22	Birth of the Báb
October 23	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

March 21, 2026 Naw-Rúz (Bahá'í New Year)
April 21 First Day of the Ridván Festival
April 29 Ninth Day of the Ridván Festival
May 2 Twelfth Day of the Ridván Festival

May 24 Declaration of the Báb
May 29 Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh
July 10 Martyrdom of the Báb

These Holy Days are actually observed beginning at sunset on the evening before the dates listed above, and end on these dates at sunset, since days begin and end at sunset in the Bahá'í calendar. Should they fall on a weekend, the students need not be excused on the proximate school days. The students are expected to make up any work they may have missed as a result of their being excused from school for their religious observance. Please note that as the Bahá'í Holy Days are fixed considering characteristics of both the lunar and solar calendars, the dates provided above will vary slightly each calendar year.

It may interest you to know that the essential message of Bahá'u'lláh is that of unity. The Bahá'í Faith, the most recent of the world's independent religions, has about eight million believers who can be found residing in virtually every country and territory around the world, in well over 100,000 localities. Should you wish to know more about the Bahá'í Faith, information is available at www.bahai.us, the official website of the Bahá'ís of the United States.

We hope that favorable consideration will be given to this request.

Very truly yours,

Kenneth E. Bowers

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Secretary