

“Notes From School”

Wisconsin Public School Observance Days

As part of the statutes governing school operations, the State of Wisconsin recognizes 21 special observance days for various reasons. Although federal law has moved the celebrations of many legal holidays to Mondays, state law recommends that each Wisconsin Special Observance Day be held on the actual day itself. If an observance date does fall on a Saturday or Sunday, it should then be observed on either the preceding Friday or the following Monday.

The following is a list of the 2016-2017 School Year Observance Days:

- September 16: Mildred Fish Harnack Day
- September 17: U.S. Constitution Day
- September 21: Wisconsin Day
- September 23: POW-MIA Recognition Day
- September 28: Bullying Awareness Day
- September 28: Francis Willard Day
- October 9: Leif Erikson Day
- October 12: Christopher Columbus Day
- November 11: Veterans Day
- January 15: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 12: Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
- February 15: Susan B. Anthony's Birthday
- February 22: George Washington's Birthday
- March 4: Casimir Pulaski Day
- March 17: "The Great Hunger" in Ireland
- April 9: Prisoners of War Remembrance Day
- April 13: American's Creed Day
- April 19: Patriots' Day
- April 22: Environmental Awareness Day
- April 29: Arbor Day
- June 14: Robert LaFollette, Sr. Day

Honoring observance days can teach the elements of tradition that preserve U.S. society and foster an awareness of our cultural heritage. Hopefully the aforementioned list sparks a curiosity in you to learn more.