



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



GCCISD Memorial Day Activities

Memorial Day, May 26, will be an instructional day for Goose Creek CISD students, so schools are taking this opportunity to provide “teachable moments” as they plan lessons and activities to help students appreciate the meaning of Memorial Day.

Students at **Alamo Elementary School** will begin the day with announcements and a discussion about the meaning of Memorial Day. Students and faculty members will wear red, white and blue. Teachers will lead grade level appropriate Memorial Day activities. During P. E. classes, teachers plan to have veterans speak to students.

Ashbel Smith Elementary School will pay tribute to America’s fallen veterans by listening to select patriotic songs and wearing red, white and blue. In addition, students will honor American veterans throughout the day with various hands-on activities in their classrooms.

Austin Elementary School asks that students wear red, white and blue. The 5th grade class will present special announcements about the meaning of Memorial Day, and the Honor Choir will sing a patriotic song. All grade levels will participate in social studies lessons pertaining to Memorial Day. Art classes will create a flag, music classes will work on patriotic/Memorial Day music, and digital art classes will work on patriotic artwork with a lesson on the Arlington National Cemetery and The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

At **Bowie Elementary School**, the Honor Choir will perform the national anthem at the City Memorial Day observance at Bicentennial Park May 26 at 11:00 p.m. All students are asked to wear red, white and blue. The school will make a human American flag. Students will participate in various activities, such as making a patriotic chain and a handprint flag, listening to veterans speak about their experiences, reading a book, writing a letter to a veteran, creating a poem and making ribbons in memory of someone lost in war.

Carver Elementary students will discuss the importance of Memorial Day in social studies classes and complete classroom activities, such as making collages and flags as well as writing about veterans in their families.

Students and staff at **Crockett Elementary School** are asked to wear red, white and blue. Special announcements in the morning will include information about the History of Memorial Day and a patriotic song by the kindergarten class. All grade levels will participate in Memorial Day lessons, and the Honor Choir will perform two patriotic programs at 9:00 a.m. and 1:50 p.m.

Teachers, staff and students at **De Zavala Elementary** will wear red, white and blue on Memorial Day. Fifth grade students will give facts about Memorial Day during the announcements. At 2:00 p.m., students will create a red, white and blue flag in the field behind the school. Teachers will implement lessons throughout the day in celebration of Memorial Day.

Harlem Elementary School invites parents to attend a Memorial Day picnic outdoors during their students’ lunches. The music teacher will direct students in singing patriotic songs for the parents. The Harlem staff asks that everyone wear comfortable clothes in red, white and blue and bring a blanket to sit on for the picnic outside. In the classrooms, Harlem students will work on a craft activity and write thank you letters to the troops.

Highlands Elementary School invites the community to wear

Students at **Baytown Junior School** will write letters to the troops overseas in English classes. In social studies, they will discuss the progression of the flag, the timeline of the states entering the U.S. and historical and cultural events. Science classes will discuss how science has played a role in the daily lives of soldiers, such as food, clothing, camouflage, sonar and physics. Math classes will work on flag measurements, ratio and proportions and discuss what the symbols of the flag mean. Eighth grade math classes will work on proportion percentages, such as using the iPad to find the number of deaths in three of the major wars.

Cedar Bayou Junior School social studies teachers will present a lesson on the meaning of and the history of Memorial Day. Interesting information about Memorial Day will be read over the public address system throughout the day.

Gentry Junior School teachers will have three lessons to choose from to teach their students about the importance of Memorial Day. They can choose to create a “Wall of Peace,” where students are asked to write a paragraph response to a question about Memorial Day on a brick template. Students will color the bricks and cut and create a classroom wall. They may also choose to have their students hold discussions on the five themes of citizenship (truth, compassion, respect, responsibility and courage). The third choice involves creating a “Peace” windsock that symbolizes their feelings about peace, using red, white and blue materials. Students will be served a hot dog lunch outside, picnic style, sponsored by the PTSO.

Highlands Junior School’s English classes will participate in different activities by grade level to commemorate Memorial Day, such as listening to a patriotic song and discussing sacrifices soldiers make for the country. Students will write thank you letters and make cards for those in the military. Other activities will include responding to an article about the meaning of Memorial Day and reflecting on a poem. In social studies classes, 6th grade students will watch a video about Memorial Day, responding to short answer questions and participating in a discussion. Seventh grade students will participate in a scavenger hunt about the meaning of Memorial Day and answer questions on websites designed to increase the students’ knowledge about the important day. Eighth grade students will learn the history of Memorial Day and the poppy, a universal symbol of remembrance, by making paper poppies and reading the poem “In Flanders Fields.”

Horace Mann Junior School students will discuss the meaning of Memorial Day, focusing on key vocabulary and viewing images of the memorials in Washington, D.C. Following a short video clip about Memorial Day, students will participate in a video quiz. They may choose to write a letter to a veteran, expressing their gratitude for their ultimate sacrifice, or design a memorial for Veteran’s Day in Baytown.

Goose Creek Memorial High School students will watch a video reflecting the history and experiences of war. Veterans will speak to social studies classes, and students will watch videos of veterans telling their stories. Students will interview veterans and present their information on Memorial Day.

Robert E. Lee High School’s social studies classes will observe Memorial Day with various activities. World Geography classes will view a documentary on current and future technologies in use or in the planning stages by the United States military and discuss how they improve the effectiveness of the military and decrease casualties. World History classes will review America’s war, watch a short video segment and complete activities and a quiz about

red, white and blue and join students and staff around the flagpole at 8:00 a.m. to honor the men and women who have given their lives for this country through patriotic songs, the Pledge of Allegiance, "Taps" and a moment of silence. The community is also invited to enjoy a patriotic hot dog lunch in the cafeteria. Contact the school office at 281.420.4900 for specific lunch times and prices.

B. P. Hopper Primary will observe Memorial Day with the raising of the flag and national anthem beginning at 8:25 a.m., followed by a program in the gymnasium featuring veterans, who will speak to students. A Memorial Day parade will be held in the hallways, and students will observe the Memorial Day Monument. During lunch, picnics will be held, weather permitting. At 3:00 p.m., a moment of silence will be observed as part of the National Moment of Remembrance.

Lamar Elementary will start the day with a Morning Memorial Tribute. The counselor will share the history and importance of Memorial Day with students and staff during the announcements. All Lamar students and staff are encouraged to wear red, white and blue to honor the soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States. Teachers will prepare activities and lessons, and students will see a PowerPoint on the meaning of Memorial Day. They will learn about the importance of patriotic songs. Students will also participate in creating patriotic art in art classes.

San Jacinto Elementary School will begin the day with a Memorial Day program in the gym. Everyone is asked to dress in red, white and blue. Social studies teachers will present lessons about Memorial Day, and the school will fly a flag that was flown over Camp Victory in Iraq for a day.

Travis Elementary School students are invited to wear red, white and blue in observance of Memorial Day. The choir will present a patriotic program twice during the day, and parents are invited to eat lunch with their children. Each grade level has developed an instructional plan to present historical and patriotic information to students, including activities such as creating an American flag, discussing vocabulary words pertaining to Memorial Day, making a paper quilt to honor branches of the military, reading poems and a short story about Memorial Day, and researching the reasons behind various wars and the symbolism of the American flag.

Victoria Walker Elementary will start the day off with student-led announcements about Memorial Day facts and information. During social studies classes, teachers will lead activities and discussions based on promoting patriotism and the values behind Memorial Day. Throughout the day, not only will Wildcats "paws" to remember what Memorial Day is about, but also to learn the true meaning of patriotism.

the history of the Memorial Day holiday. U.S. History classes will also watch a short video about the significance of Memorial Day, participating in discussions and group work related to causes and outcomes of American wars. Students will create a wreath of stars to commemorate the war assigned to their group. Government and economics classes will discuss the meaning and importance of Memorial Day and write letters of thanks to active duty soldiers as well as veterans.

Ross S. Sterling High School will recognize staff members who have served in the armed forces and play patriotic music between classes. The Commons will be decorated with banners, and classes will compete in a Door Decorating Contest. After observing a moment of silence, students and staff will watch a video. Everyone is encouraged to wear red, white and blue. All classes will participate in Memorial Day activities. English classes will read stories and poems and write essays.

IMPACT Early College High School social studies teachers will conduct a lesson on the Arlington National Cemetery and how it came to be a burial ground for Civil War soldiers in the front yard of Robert E. Lee's house. Students will watch a documentary on the Arlington National Cemetery and write a letter of encouragement to an active-duty soldier.

The **Peter E. Hyland Center** will celebrate Memorial Day during the opening exercises by playing the "The Star Spangled Banner," reciting the U.S. and Texas pledges, and observing a moment of silence. The video, "A Memorial Day Tribute," will be shown to the student body, and "The History of Memorial Day" will be shown during advisory classes, followed by a discussion on how Memorial Day has impacted their lives.

At **POINT Alternative Center**, students will listen to speakers from four branches of the armed forces tell what Memorial Day means to them. Students will discuss the information presented.

Students at **Stuart Career Center** will dress in patriotic colors and discuss the importance of Memorial Day in classes. Patriotic music will play on the public address system, and a picture display of staff family members and students' relatives who served in the military will be set up. The Meat Processing class will cook for students who have pre-signed in the armed forces to thank them. Culinary Arts classes will warm up Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) to show students a different type of food preparation and cooking technique to help them understand the sacrifices that soldiers make out in the field. Teachers who have served in the military will be dressed to commemorate the branch in which they served.

At Goose Creek CISD, we recognize the sacrifices made by these men and women who lost their lives serving our country. We appreciate this opportunity to provide a learning experience for students about the significance of Memorial Day.

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Physical Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
4544 Interstate 10 East
Baytown, Texas 77521
281.420.4800

Mailing Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
P.O. Box 30
Baytown, Texas 77522
281.420.4800

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