

Schools split on holiday

T-R Special Report

Area schools, torn between the lure of a three-day spring weekend and the impact of veterans' group pressure on state government, are divided on when to close in observance of Memorial Day this year.

Six area school districts say they'll close on May 28 — a Monday — joining the federal government, banks, most private businesses and many city and village government offices.

But 17 other area schools and school districts will close on May 30 — a Wednesday — joining state, county and township workers and most others in the field of education.

And if that confusion isn't bad enough, a few school officials said their closing dates could change because the subject is scheduled for discussion at their board meetings in the next week or so.

The source of the confusion is a state law which goes into effect this year. Under pressure from veterans' groups, Ohio designated Memorial Day as May 30. The federal government, meanwhile, has kept its observance on the last Monday in May.

The confusion could have been avoided by an Ohio House-approved bill which, in effect, would sidestep the veterans' groups and says the state will honor its war dead on whatever day Congress picks. That bill, however, is languishing in the Ohio Senate.

When schools will close

MAY 28

Garaway
Newcomerstown
Sandy Valley
Tuscarawas Valley
East Holmes
West Holmes

MAY 30

Buckeye JVS
Carrollton
Central Catholic
Claymont
Conotton Valley
Coshocton
Coshocton JVS
Dover
Fairless
Harrison Hills
Indian Valley
Maumee
New Philadelphia
Ridgeway
River View
Strawmont
TusCampus, KTO

NOTE: The final day of classes at Indian Hills Christian School is May 28, so it won't be affected.