

2026-2027 HCPS School Year Calendar Presentation

January 12, 2026

Calendar Development Timeline for 2026-2027 School Year

- **August 2025: Board of Education of Harford County leadership provides starting calendar for committee review.**
- September 2025: First Calendar Committee meeting.
- **September 2025: Presentation of 2026-2027 HCPS Calendar draft at BOE business meeting.**
- September-November 2025: 60 days of public comment.
- **November 2025: Second Calendar Committee meeting.**
- January 2026: Presentation of 2026-2027 HCPS Calendar for Board of Education vote.

School Calendar Requirements

- **Schools must be open for 180 days for students**
- Schools must be open for 190 days for teachers
- **Official Holidays per Negotiated Agreements**
 - Labor Day
 - Primary & General Election Days
 - Thanksgiving Day and the day after
 - Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
 - New Year's Day
 - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
 - President's Day
 - Good Friday
 - Memorial Day
- **Board Observances**
 - MSEA Convention Day
 - Veteran's Day
 - Easter Monday – state observed
 - Juneteenth
- **COMAR Required Holidays**
 - Thanksgiving Day and the day after
 - Christmas Eve and from then through January 1
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 - Presidents' Day
 - The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday after Easter
 - Memorial Day
 - Primary and general election days
- **Professional Development Practices**
 - 3 or more PD days before the start of school
 - 2 additional PD days for new teachers
 - 10 PD days in total during the school year
 - 8-10 Early Dismissal days
- **Board Policy - Minimum of 3 inclement weather days included**

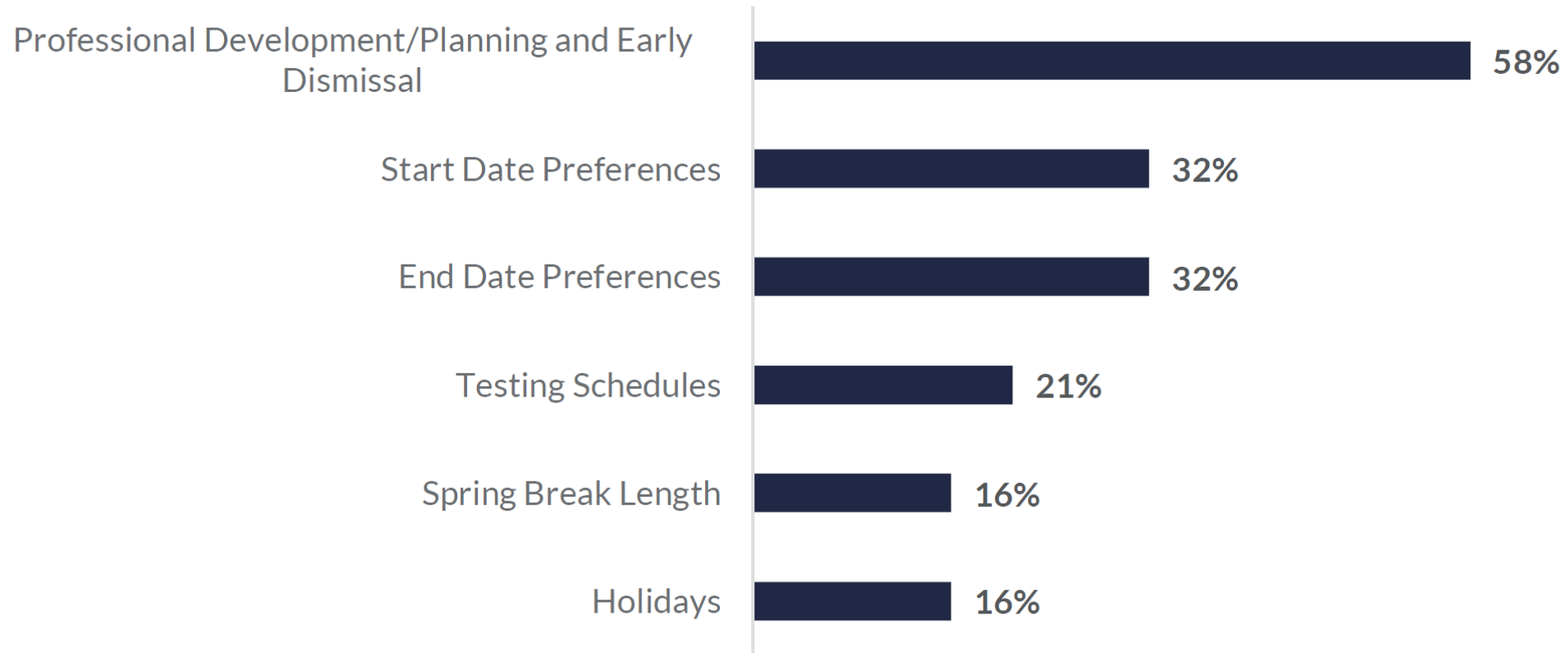
Public Comment Received- 228 total respondents

PHASE 1 (September 23 rd – October 9 th)		
RESPONDENT GROUP	TOTAL SURVEY RESPONSES	TOTAL CLEANED RESPONSES
Internal to HCPS (Staff Member)	57	57
External to HCPS (Parent or Guardian)	107	106
Total	164	163

PHASE 2 (October 9 th – November 20 th)		
RESPONDENT GROUP	TOTAL SURVEY RESPONSES	TOTAL CLEANED RESPONSES
Internal to HCPS (Staff Member)	27	25
External to HCPS (Parent or Guardian)	42	40
Total	69	65

Internal Response Themes through October

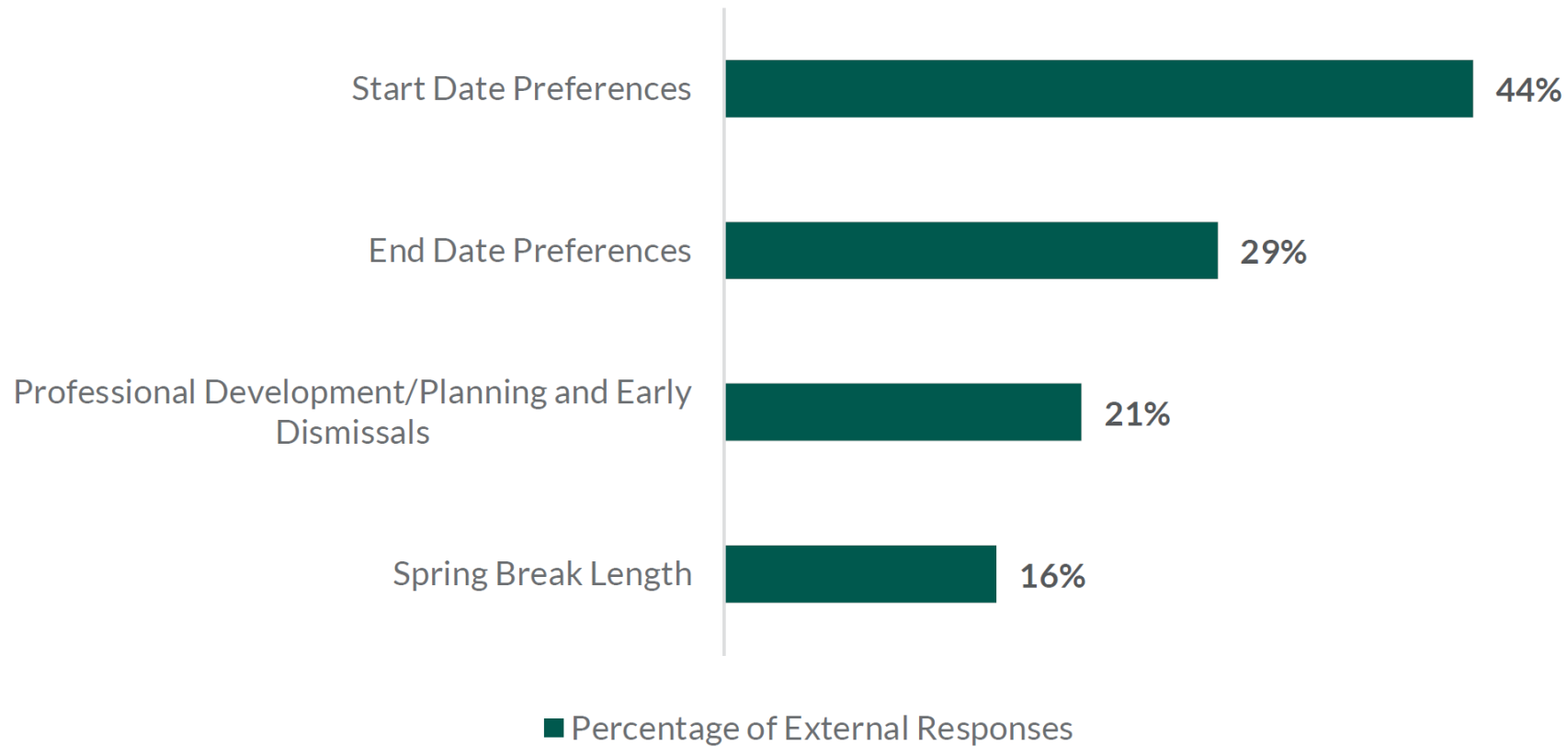
Phase 1: Internal District Responses - Theme Frequency



■ Percentage of Internal District Responses

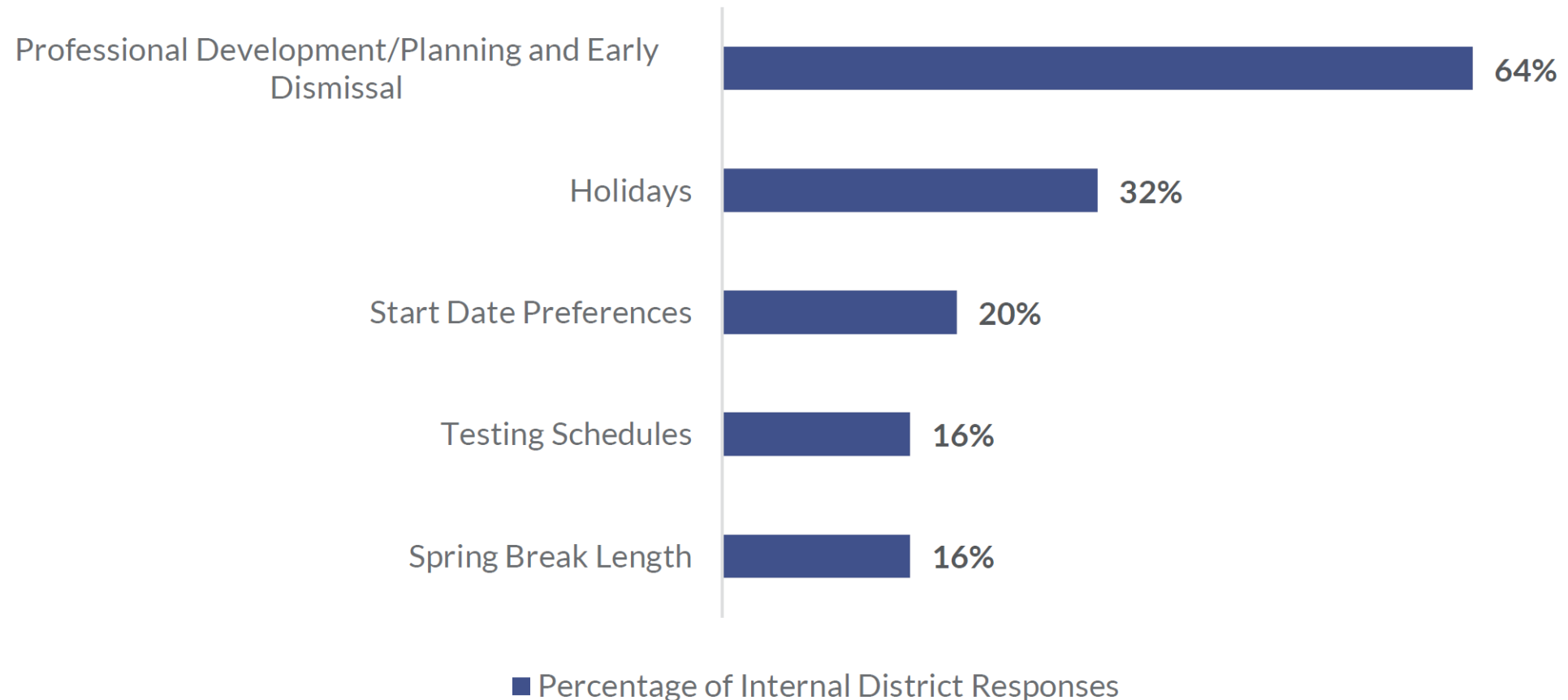
External Response Themes through October

Phase 1: External Responses - Theme Frequency



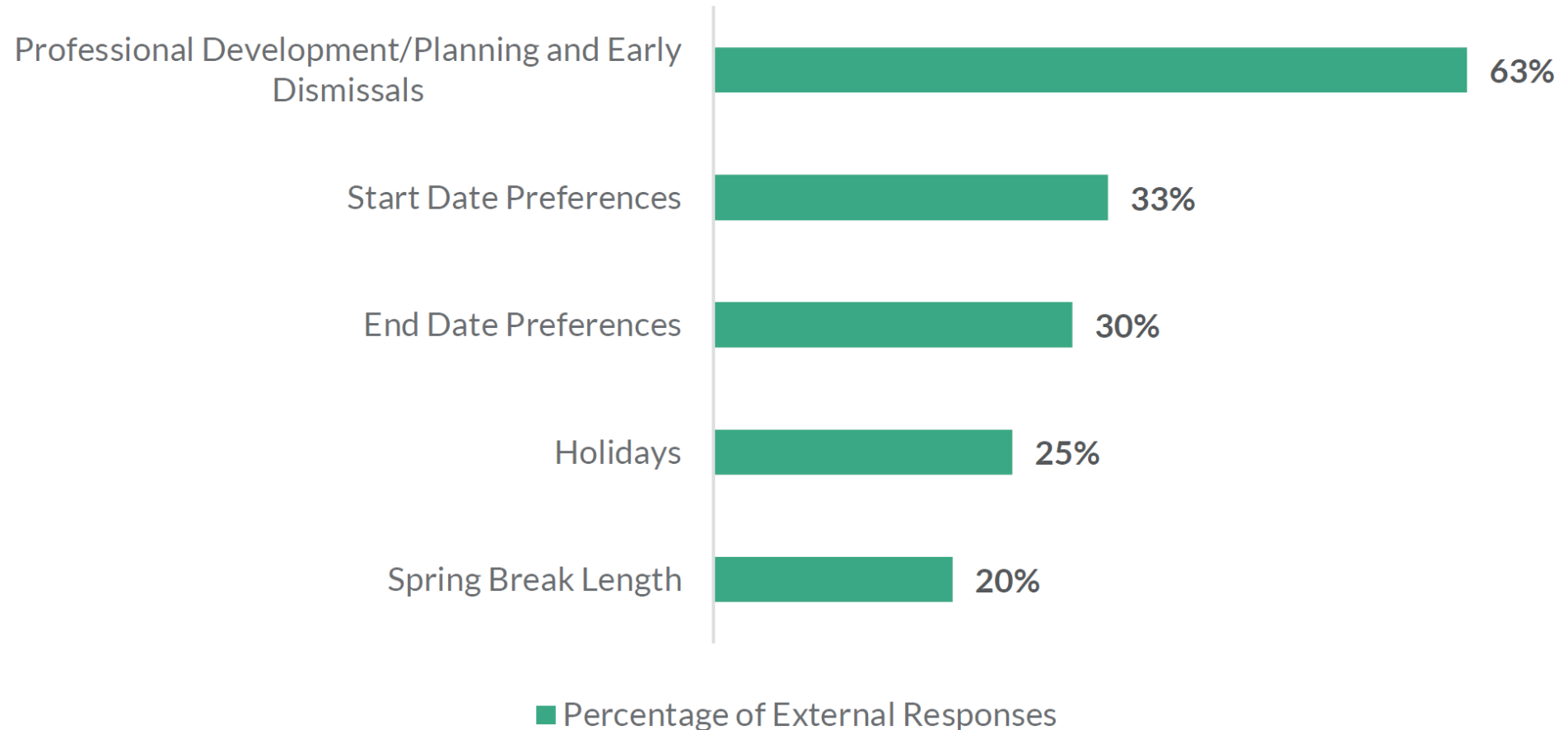
Internal Response Themes through November

Phase 2: Internal District Responses - Theme Frequency



External Response Themes through November

Phase 2: External Responses - Theme Frequency



Per Comments received during Public Comment and Second Committee Meeting:

- Adjusted the color of Professional Development/Teacher Planning.
- **Adjusted professional development days to align with quarter ends and spread throughout the school year.**
- Additional early dismissals for students resulting in additional professional development time during the school year for staff.
- **Moved November PD/Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences to build longer instructional blocks in November.**
- Spring Break moved to week of March 22 (still encompasses Good Friday and Monday after Easter, per negotiated agreement and COMAR).
- **Adjusted start date to Monday, August 24. Adjusted last day to Friday, June 4.**

Proposed Calendar Version 1

					2026 - 2027SY Committee Edits to Proposed Calendar <i>(following public comment)</i>																														
			Aug-26								Sep-26								Oct-26								Nov-26								
	Weekend		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
	HOLIDAY/sched closed school & offices								1				1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
	1st day school		2	3	4	5	6	7	8		6	7	8	9	10	11	12		4	5	6	7	8	9	10		8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
	last day of school		9	10	11	12	13	14	15		13	14	15	16	17	18	19		11	12	13	14	15	16	17		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
	3 hour early dismiss students only		16	17	18	19	20	21	22		20	21	22	23	24	25	26		18	19	20	21	22	23	24		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
	3 hour early dismiss school & offices		23	24	25	26	27	28	29		27	28	29	30					25	26	27	28	29	30	31		29	30							
	Professional Development/Teacher Plannin		30	31																															
	New Educator PD		Dec-26								Jan-27								Feb-27								Mar-27								
	First day for Kindergarten		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
	First/Last day for Prekindergarten				1	2	3	4	5							1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5	6		
180	Number of student full or half days		6	7	8	9	10	11	12		3	4	5	6	7	8	9		7	8	9	10	11	12	13		7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
6	Student ONLY early dismissal (last day)		13	14	15	16	17	18	19		10	11	12	13	14	15	16		14	15	16	17	18	19	20		14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
10	Number PD/Plan days (all EDUCATORS)		20	21	22	23	24	25	26		17	18	19	20	21	22	23		21	22	23	24	25	26	27		21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
190	Number total teacher days (all)		27	28	29	30	31				24	25	26	27	28	29	30		28								28	29	30	31					
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Proposed Calendar Version 2

					2026 - 2027SY Committee Edits to Proposed Calendar (following public comment)																														
			Aug-26								Sep-26								Oct-26								Nov-26								
	Weekend		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
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Proposed Calendar Version 2a

			Aug-26								Sep-26								Oct-26								Nov-26																						
	Weekend		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT																
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		<table><tr><th>Qtr</th><th>EOQ</th><th># days</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>5-Nov</td><td>44 days</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>28-Jan</td><td>49 days</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>8-Apr</td><td>44 days</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>10-Jun</td><td>43 days</td></tr></table>	Qtr	EOQ	# days	1	5-Nov	44 days	2	28-Jan	49 days	3	8-Apr	44 days	4	10-Jun	43 days		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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												30	31																																				

Qtr	EOQ	# days
1	5-Nov	44 days
2	28-Jan	49 days
3	8-Apr	44 days
4	10-Jun	43 days

Board of Education Vote

- To approve the 2026-2027 HCPS School Year Calendar.