

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**

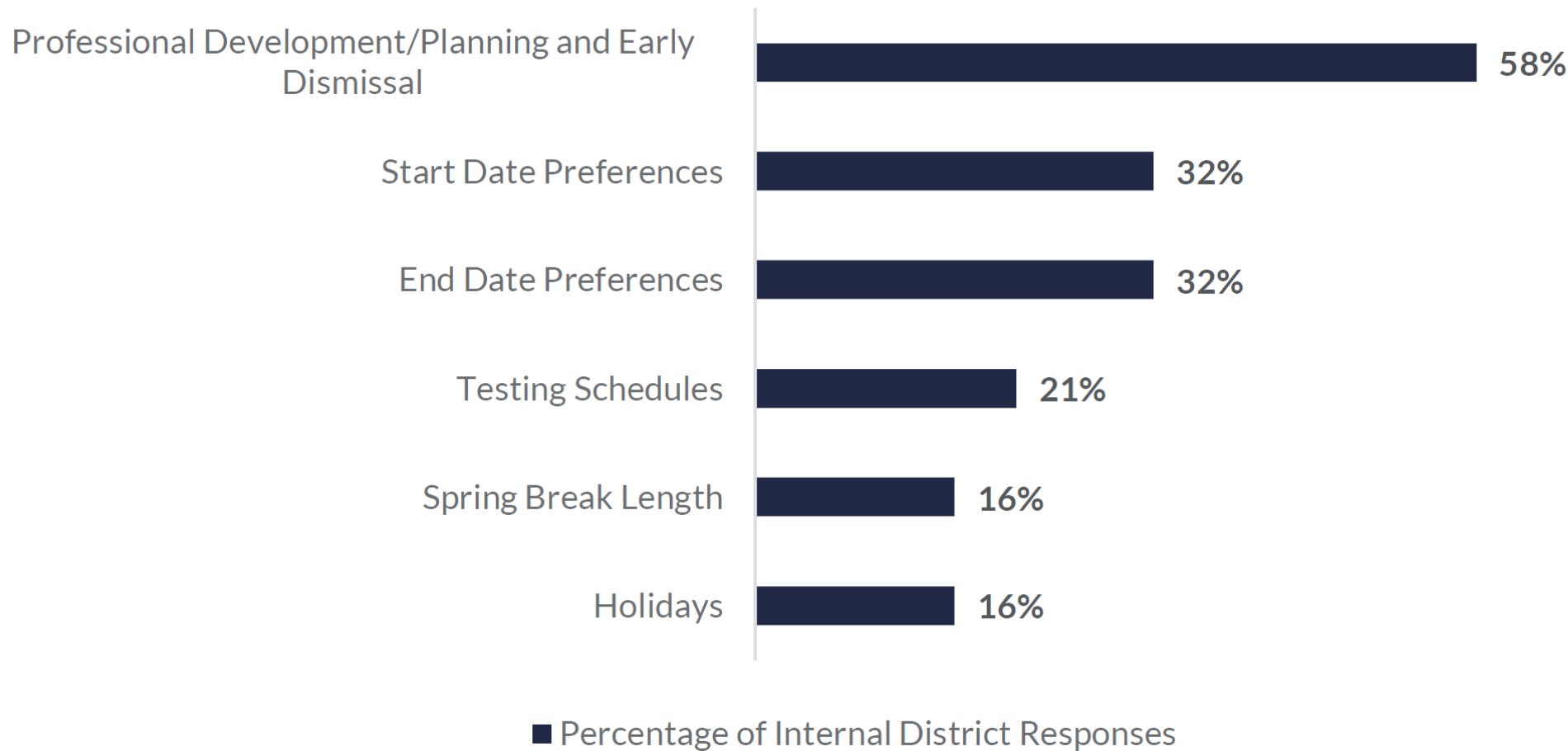
Public Comment Received- 228 total respondents

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

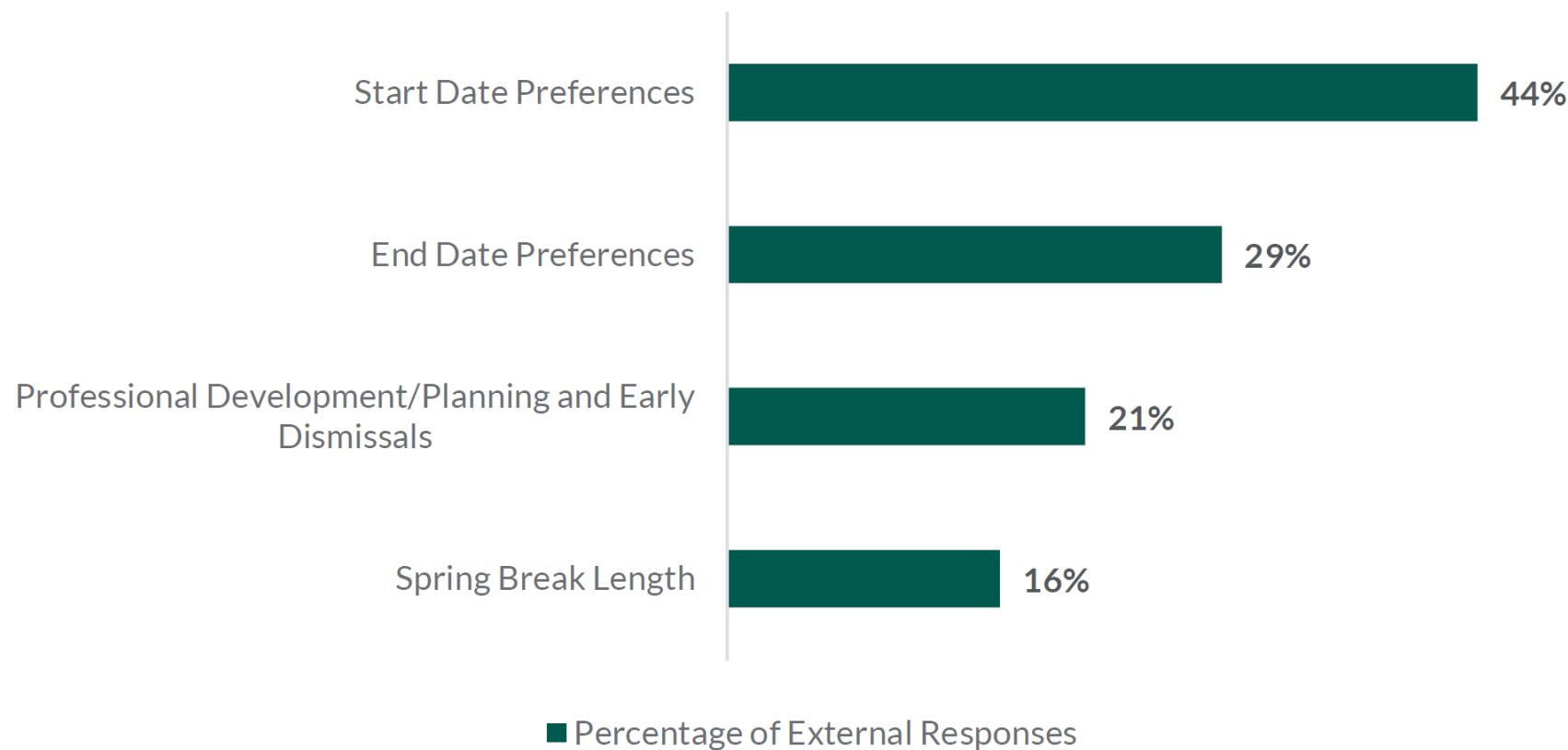
Internal Response Themes through October

Phase 1: Internal District Responses - Theme Frequency



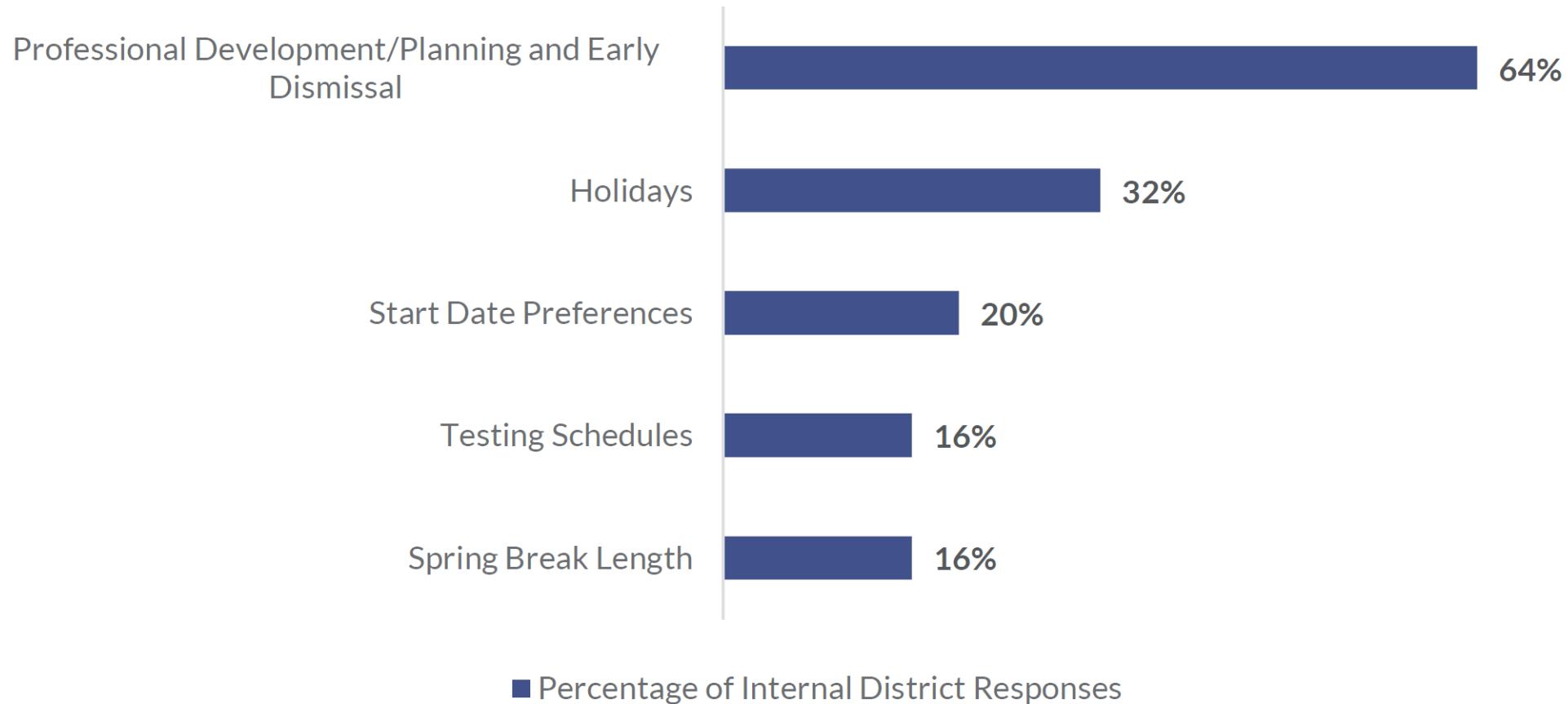
External Response Themes through October

Phase 1: External Responses - Theme Frequency



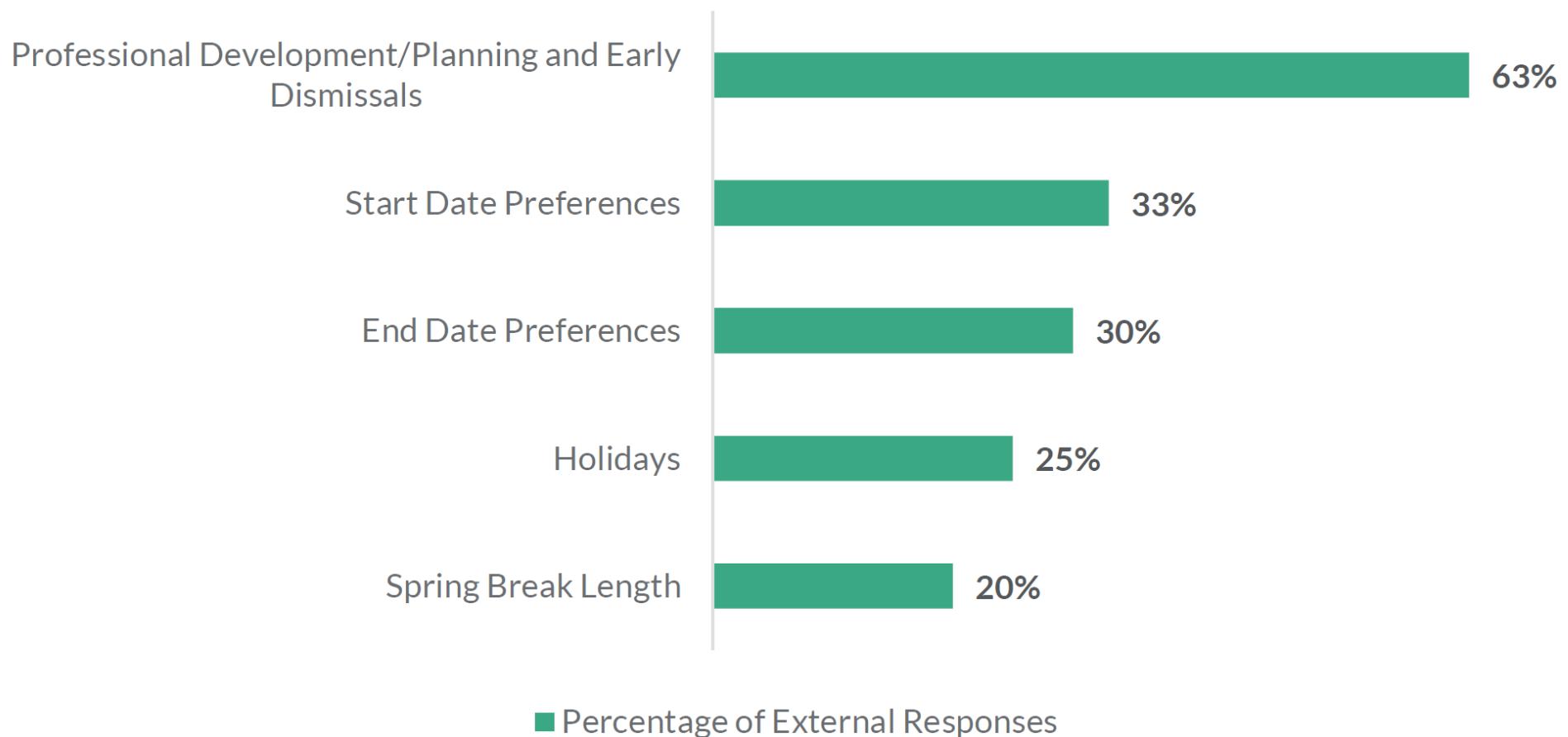
Internal Response Themes through November

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 (*following public comment*)

Proposed Calendar Version 2

2026 - 2027SY Committee Edits to Proposed Calendar (*following public comment*)

Proposed Calendar Version 2a

Board of Education Vote

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