

## Abstract

The executive summary of responses to the DeKalb County School District calendar survey reveals substantial feedback with several clear trends and actionable suggestions from stakeholders, including parents, teachers, and staff.

## Key Themes

- **Desire for a Later Start and Earlier End:** The overwhelming majority of comments expressed a strong preference for the school year to start later in August (rather than early August or late July) and to end before Memorial Day. Parents and teachers highlighted that an earlier start shortens summer, conflicts with family plans, and poses challenges with heat and facility readiness. There was frequent frustration over recent calendars pushing the end of the school year past Memorial Day.
- **Shorter or Adjusted Breaks:** Many respondents felt week-long breaks in October and February were disruptive and difficult for working parents to accommodate. Suggestions included shortening these breaks to long weekends and aligning break schedules more closely with surrounding districts (e.g., Gwinnett, Cobb). Others, however, valued the mental health benefits and family opportunities these breaks provide and wanted to see them maintained.
- **Alignment with Neighboring Districts:** Numerous comments advocated for better alignment of calendar dates, including start/end, breaks, and holidays, with those of neighboring counties to simplify logistics for families and staff with children in multiple districts.
- **Advance Notice:** Respondents noted the need for much earlier calendar publication, ideally at least a year in advance, to support family and childcare planning, as well as summer camps and vacations.
- **Virtual/Independent Learning Days:** There was broad dissatisfaction with independent learning or virtual days, which many found ineffective and burdensome for parents, especially at the elementary level. Calls to eliminate, relocate, or reconsider these days (such as moving them to Fridays or Mondays or tying them to inclement weather) were common.
- **Suggestions for Calendar Options:** Some offered alternatives such as implementing a 4-day school week, restoring more traditional schedules, incorporating additional professional development or workdays for teachers, and using early release days instead of full days off.

## Diversity of Opinions

- While substantial feedback supported shorter and better-timed breaks, some specifically requested retaining week-long breaks for their positive impact on morale and family well-being.
- There was notable division on the value of October and February breaks; some saw them as essential for mental health, others as disruptive to continuity of learning.
- A subset of comments expressed satisfaction or appreciation for recent calendar improvements, particularly the movement to finish before Memorial Day, and the option of a Wednesday start.

## Operational, Equity, and Communication Concerns

- Calls for explicit inclusion of open house and conference dates, accommodation of major cultural and religious holidays, and more consideration for 12-month employees and childcare needs surfaced repeatedly.
- Educators repeatedly asked for more input into the planning process and for the district to be responsive to prior survey results and stakeholder feedback.

## Summary Table

Key Concern/Themes	Stakeholder View
<b>Start/End Dates</b>	Start later in August, finish before Memorial Day
<b>Week-long Breaks</b>	Shorten October/February breaks, align regionally
<b>Calendar Publication</b>	Release at least one year in advance
<b>Virtual/Independent Days</b>	Reduce or repurpose, not effective for young kids
<b>Alignment with Other Districts</b>	Coordinate major breaks & holidays
<b>Staff/12-month Employees</b>	Consider mental health and PTO, align staff/student
<b>Communication</b>	Add key dates to calendar, more survey transparency

Overall, there is a clear and united call for the DeKalb County School District to start school later, end before Memorial Day, minimize disruption from week-long breaks, publish calendars well in advance, and ensure decisions are well-aligned with the needs of families and staff across the community.

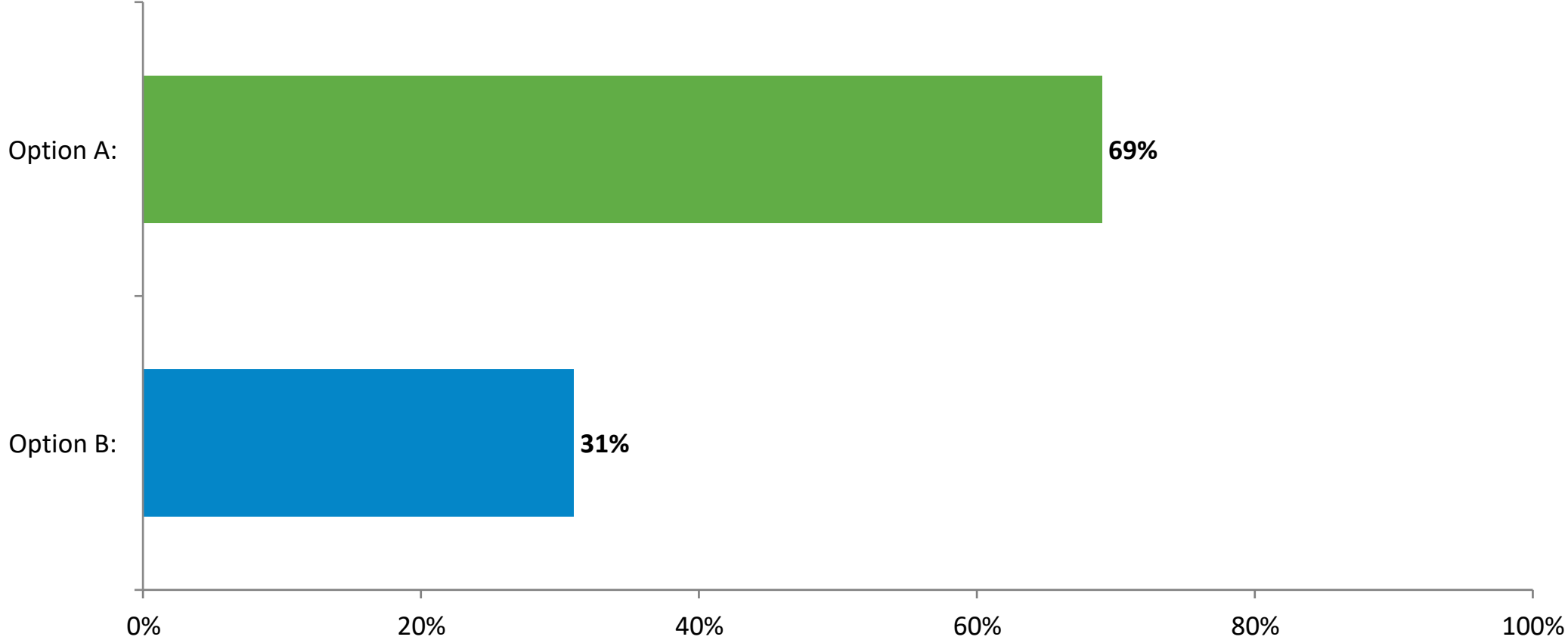


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

Summary Report October 2025

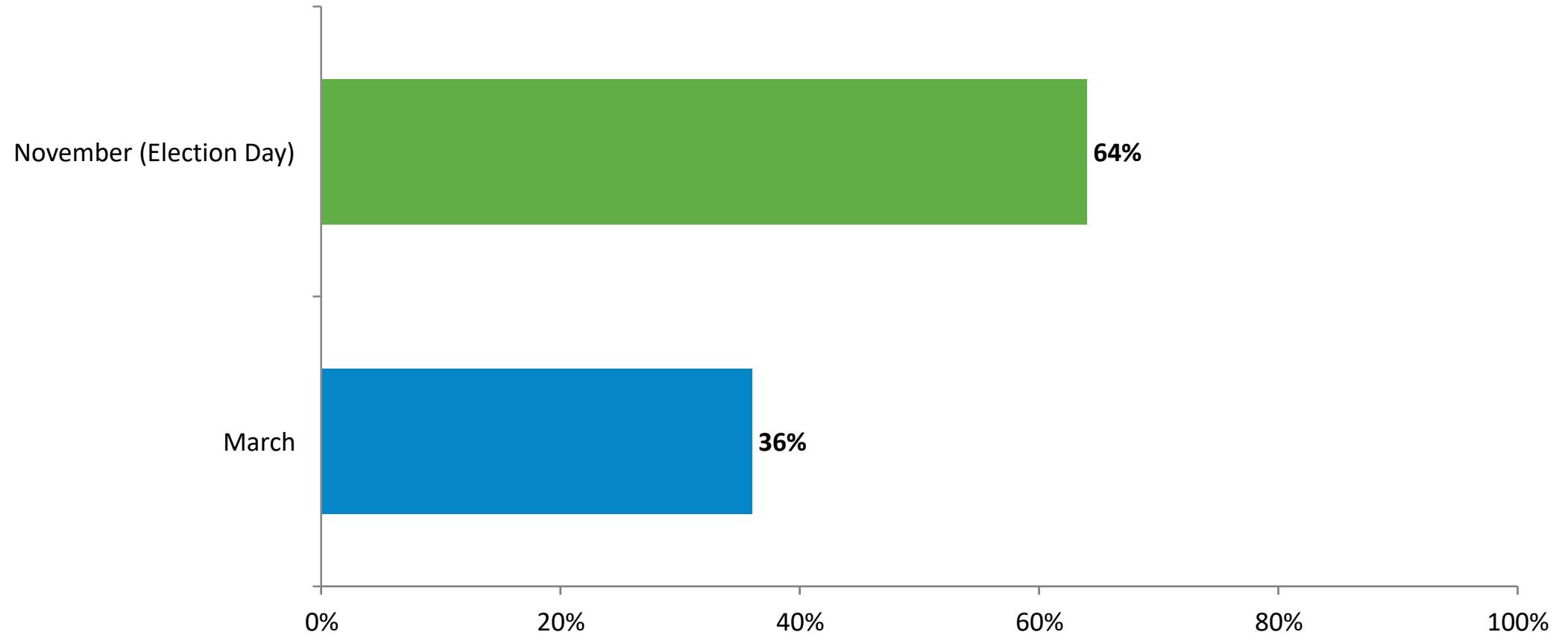
# Select your calendar option preference for the 2026-2028 SY.

(N = 4,443)



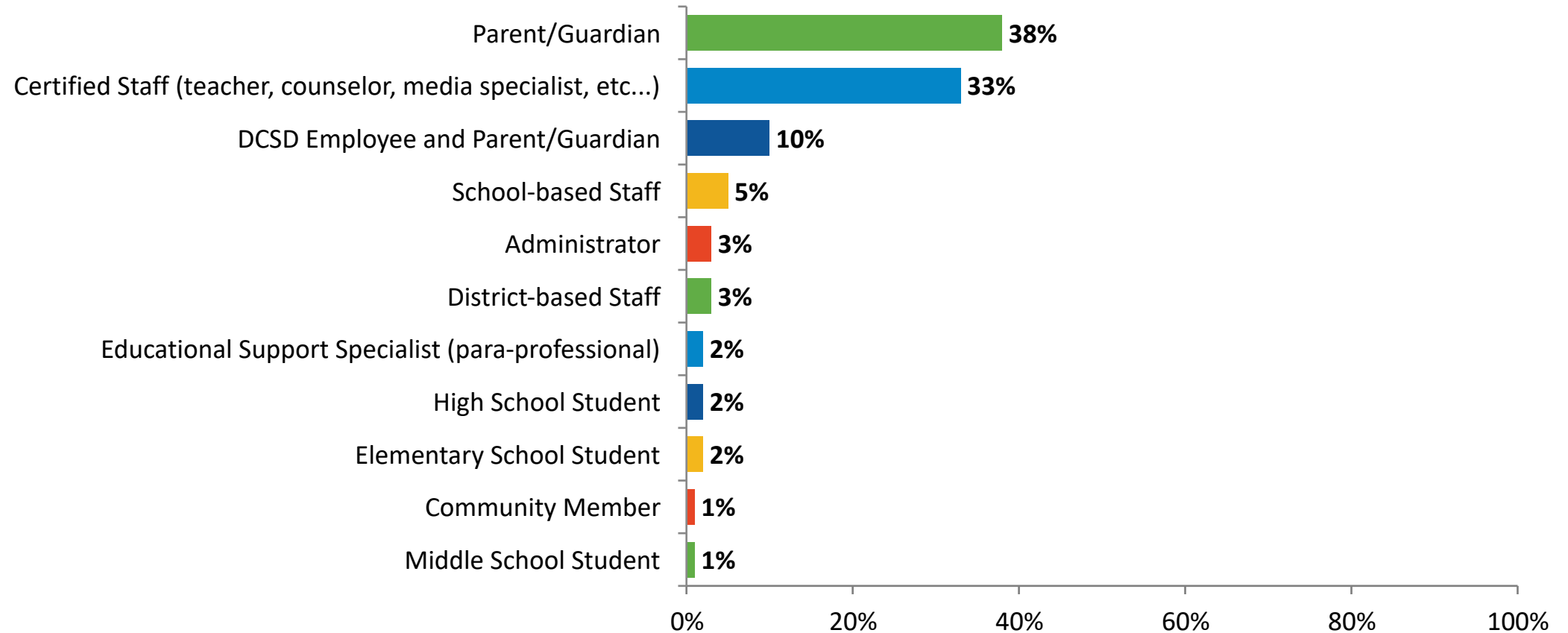
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 4,443)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 4,443)



**DCSD Calendar Survey for 2026-2028  
Responses by Stakeholder Groups**

Stakeholder Group	Total Count of Responses	Option A		Option B		November Independent Learner Day		March Independent Learner Day	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
		Administrator	132	115	87	17	13	83	63
Certified Staff	1480	1220	82	260	18	869	59	611	41
Employee / Parent	464	369	80	95	20	290	63	174	38
Community Member	63	39	62	24	38	43	68	20	32
District Staff	125	105	84	20	16	81	65	44	35
Educational Support Staff	96	83	86	13	14	55	57	41	43
Elementary School Student	69	39	57	30	43	38	55	31	45
High School Student	77	53	69	24	31	54	70	23	30
Middle School Student	32	23	72	9	28	21	66	11	34
Parent/Guardian	1693	865	51	828	49	1196	71	497	29
School Staff	212	174	82	38	18	127	60	85	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>4443</b>	<b>3085</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1358</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2857</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1586</b>	<b>36</b>

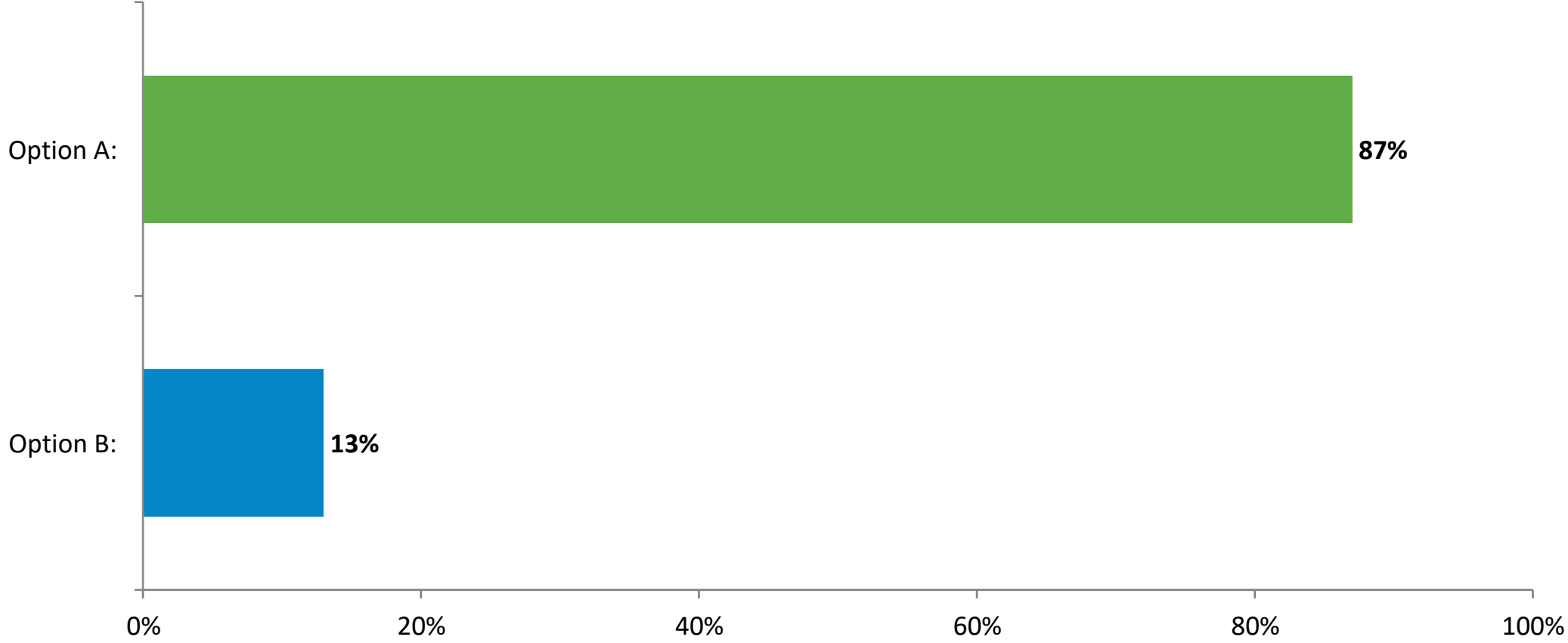


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Administrator - Stakeholder

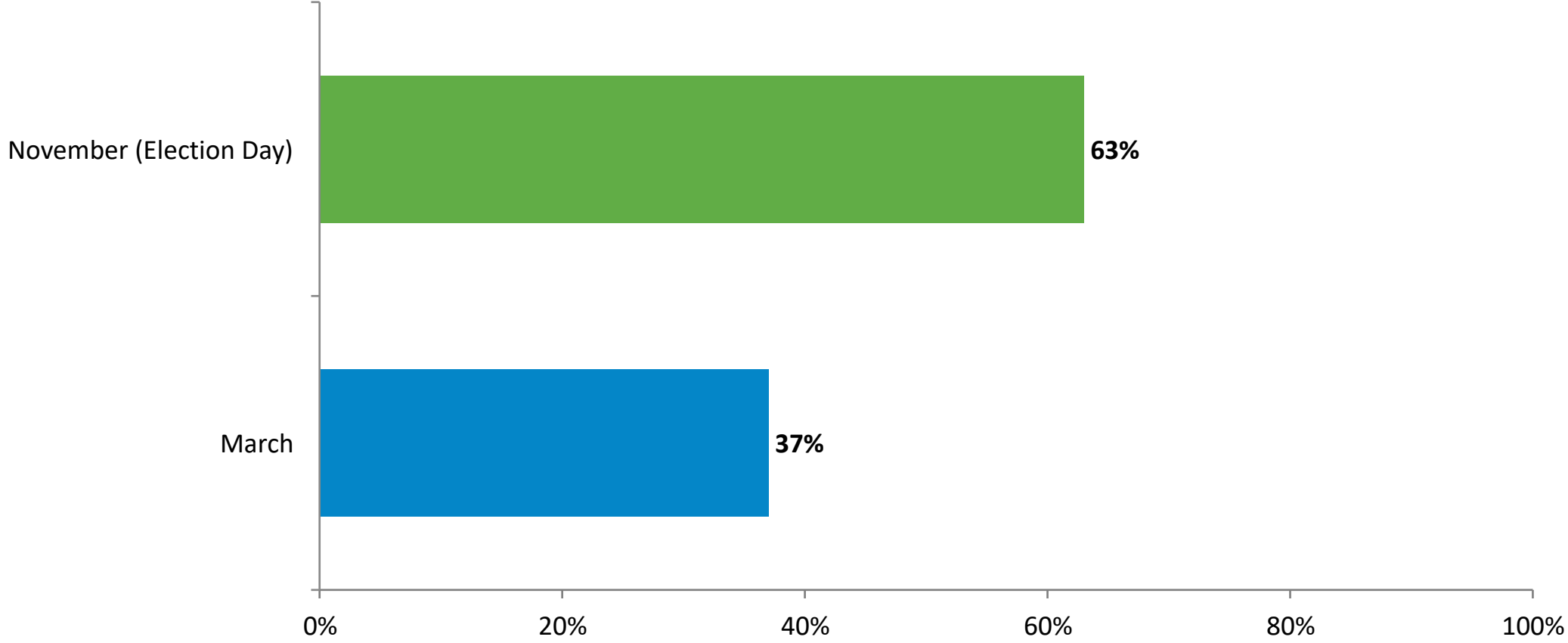
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(N = 132)



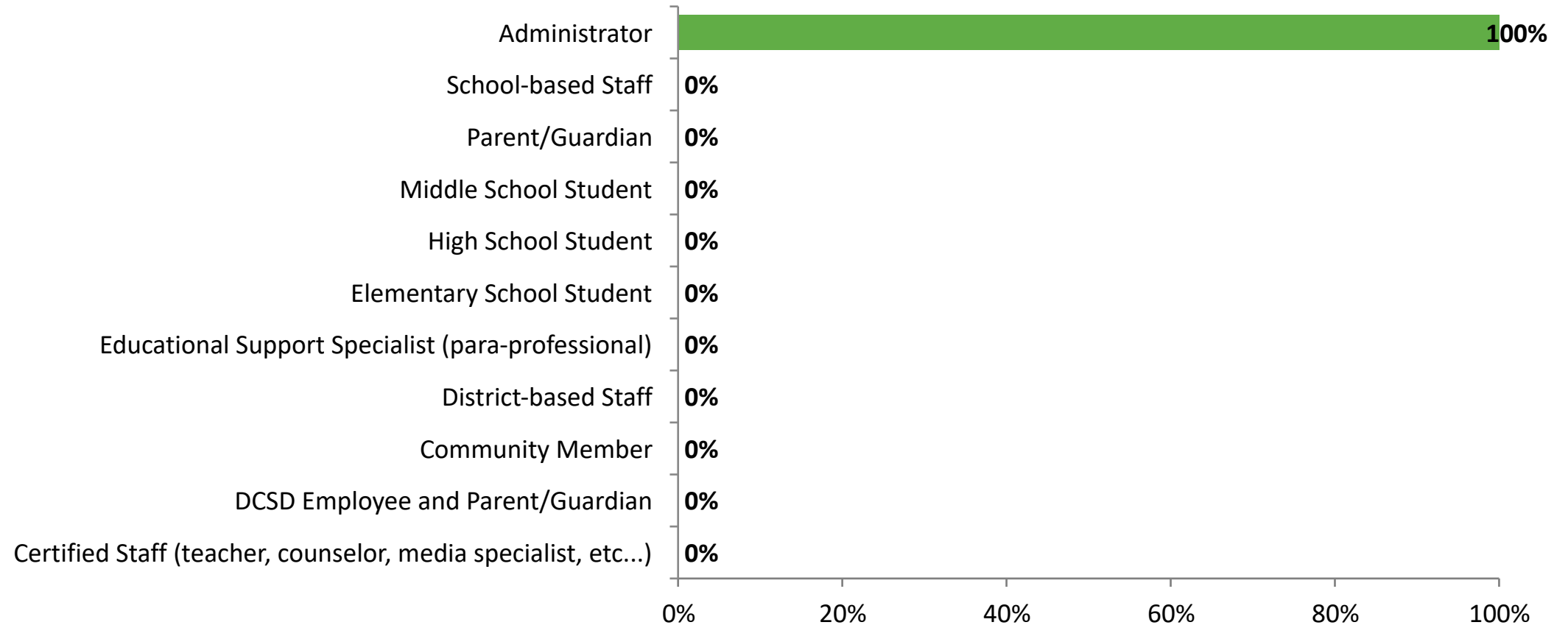
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 132)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 132)



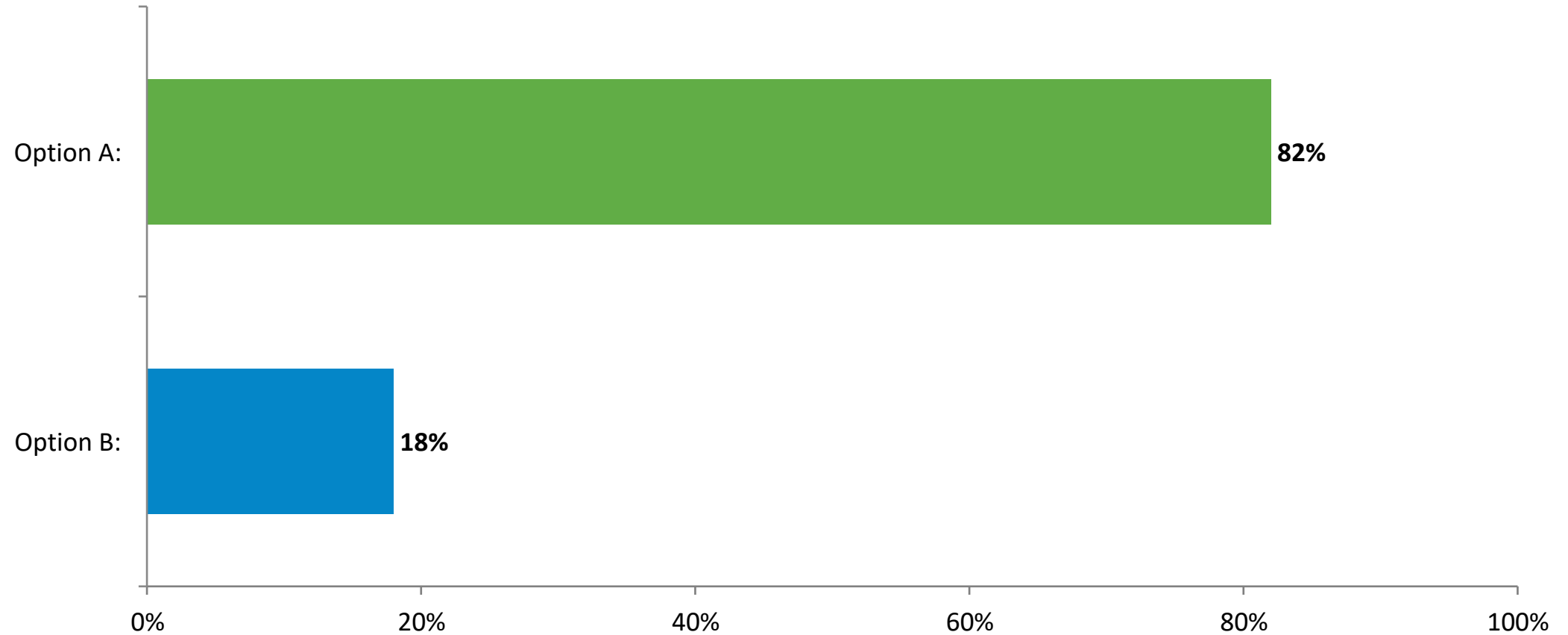


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Certified Staff - Stakeholder

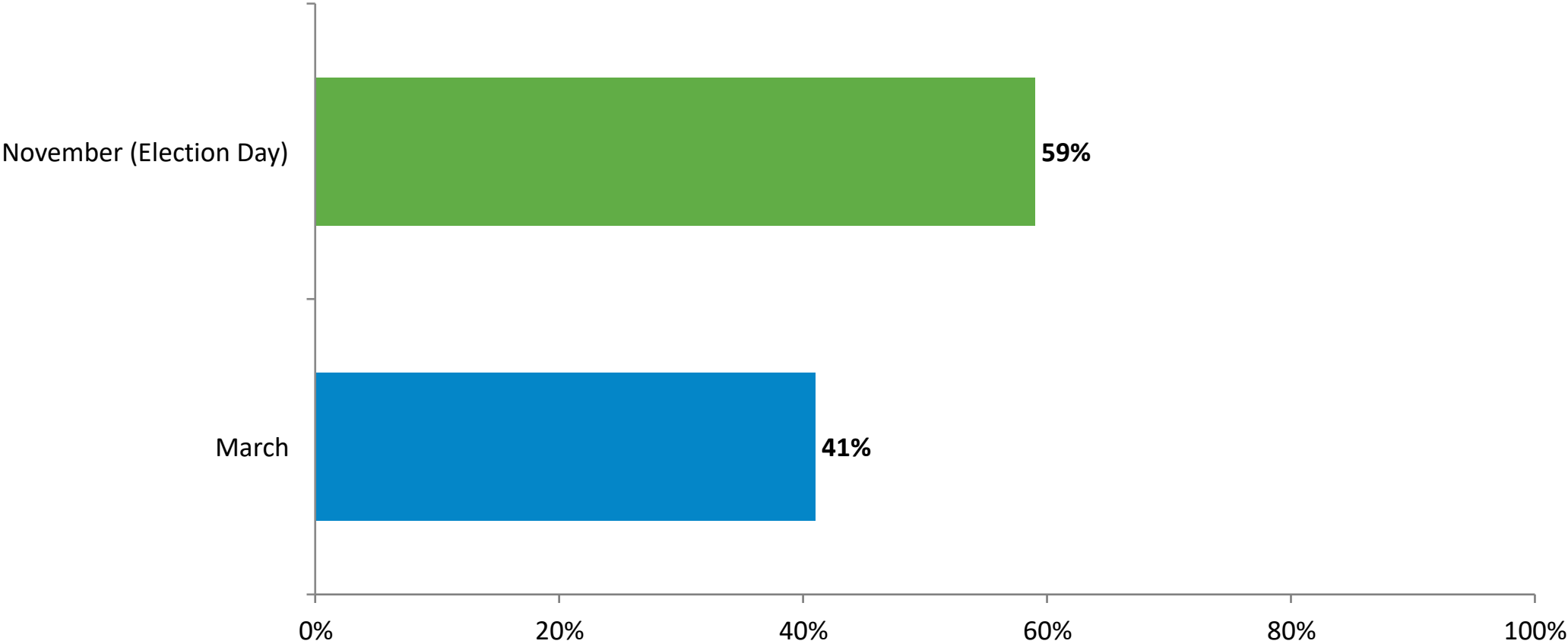
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(N = 1,480)



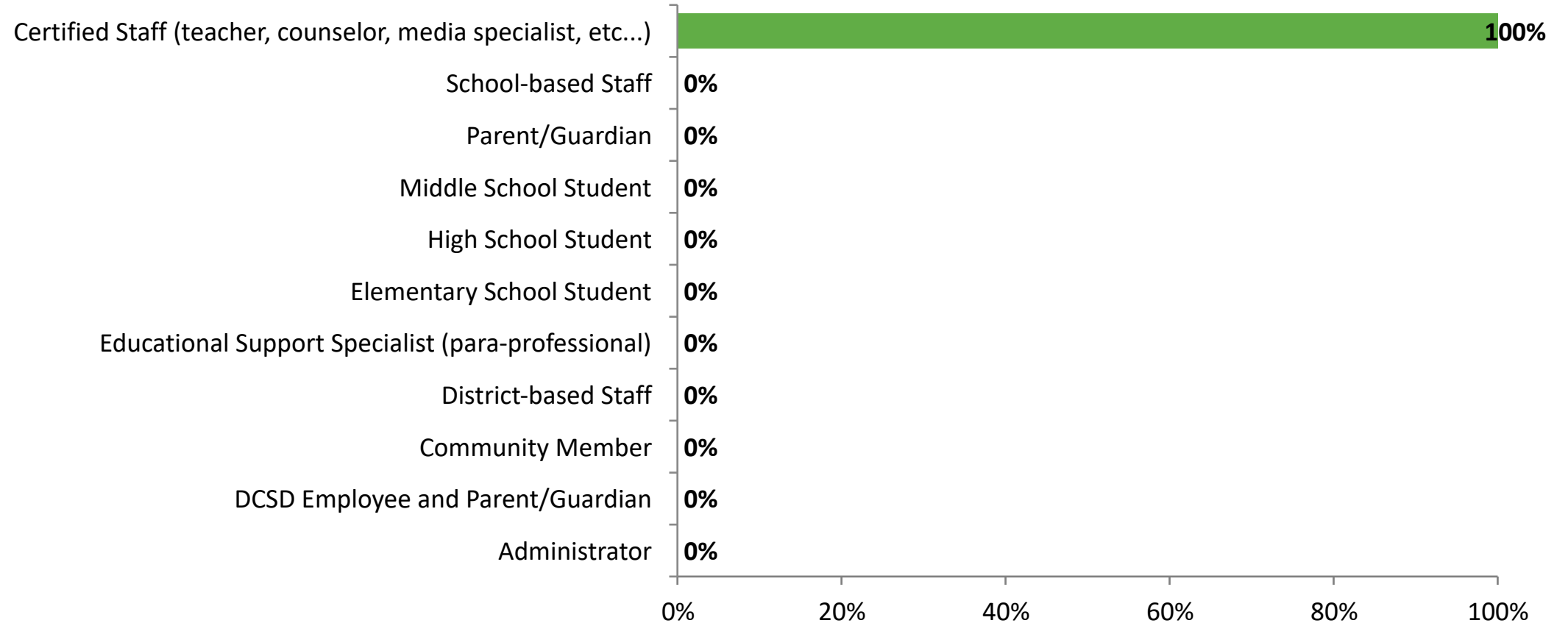
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 1,480)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 1,480)



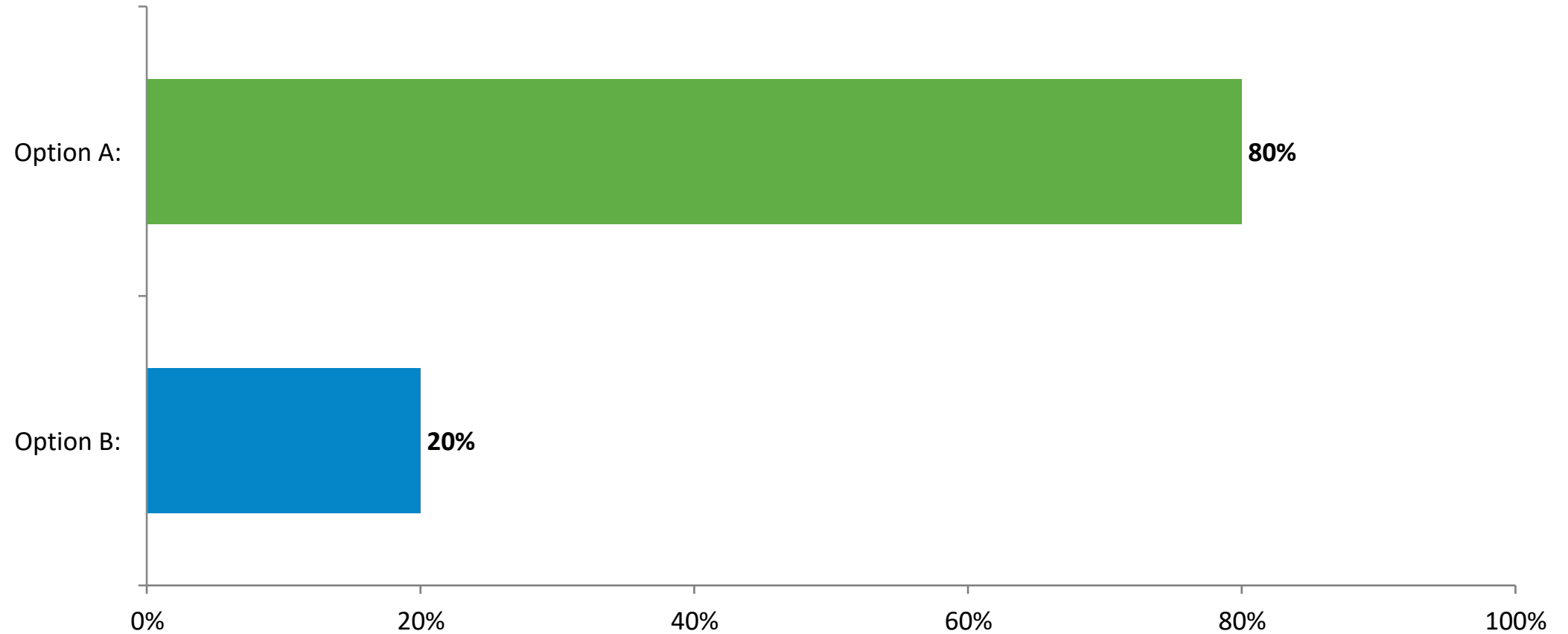


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Employee/Parent - Stakeholder

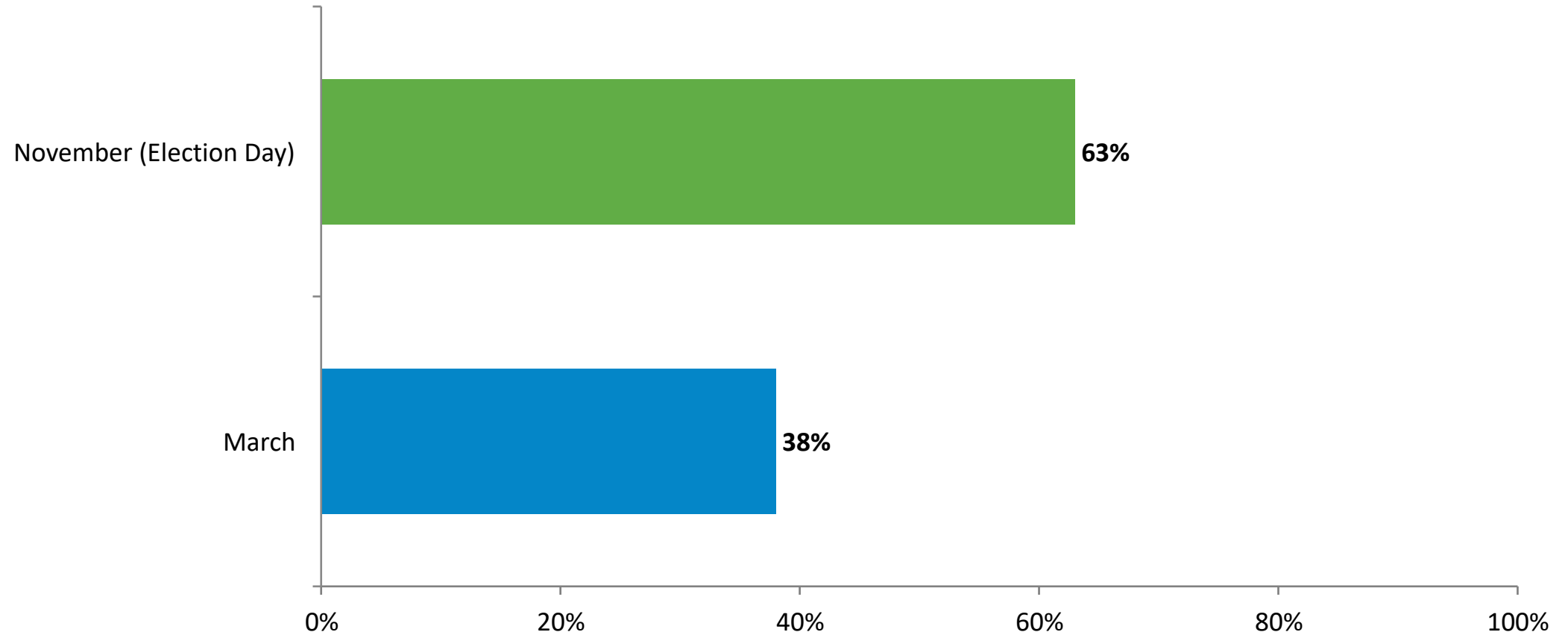
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(N = 464)



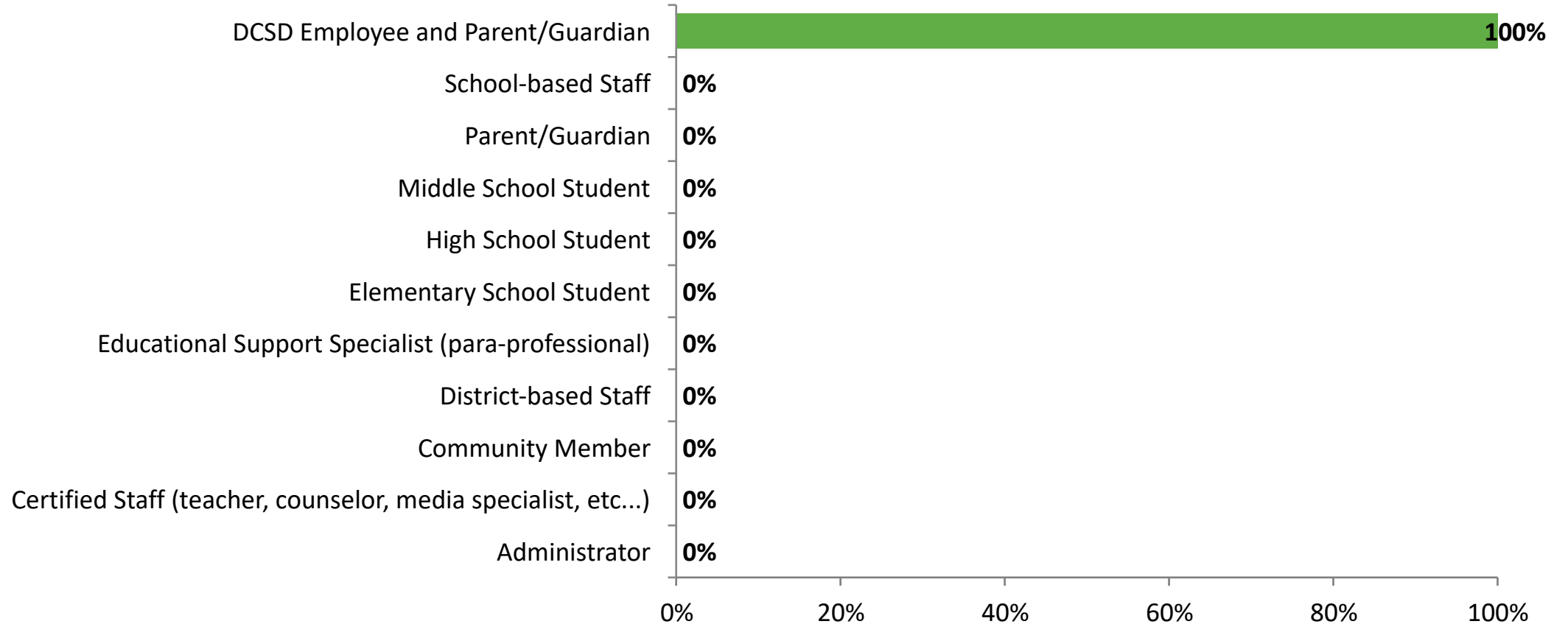
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 464)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 464)



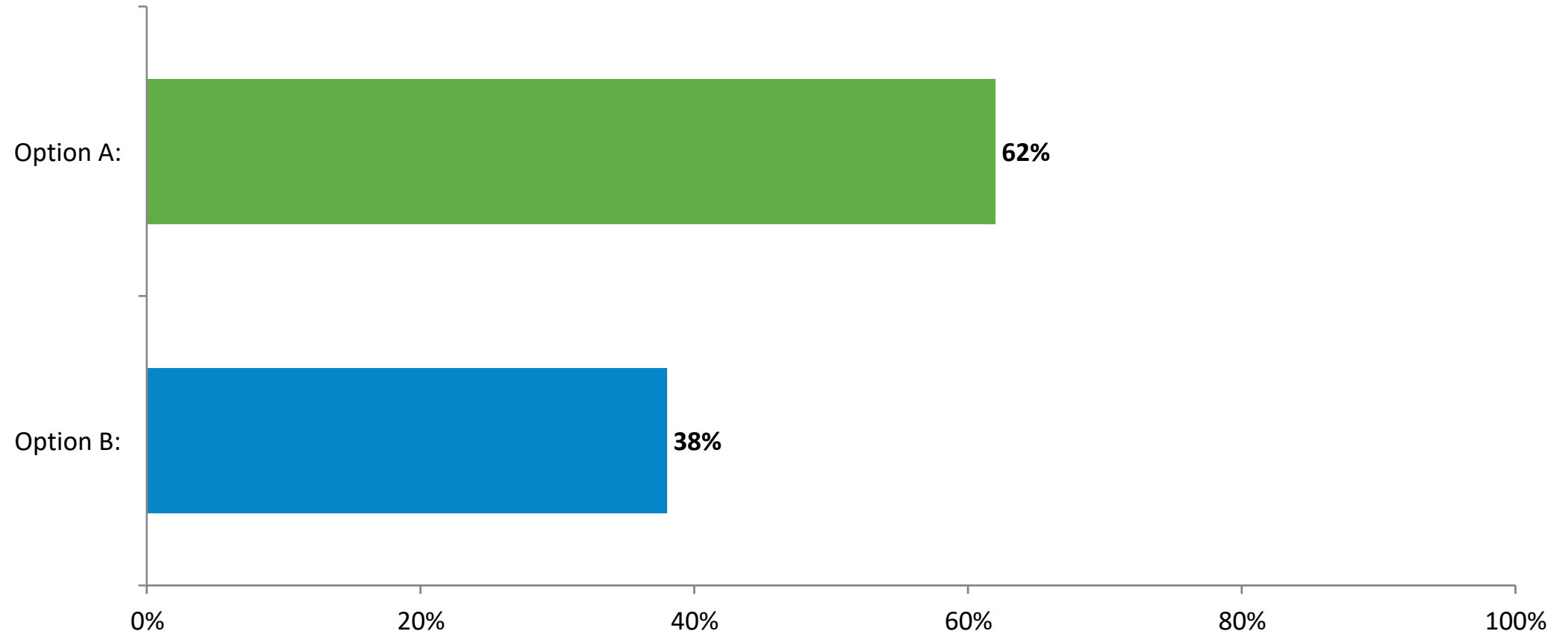


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Community Member - Stakeholder

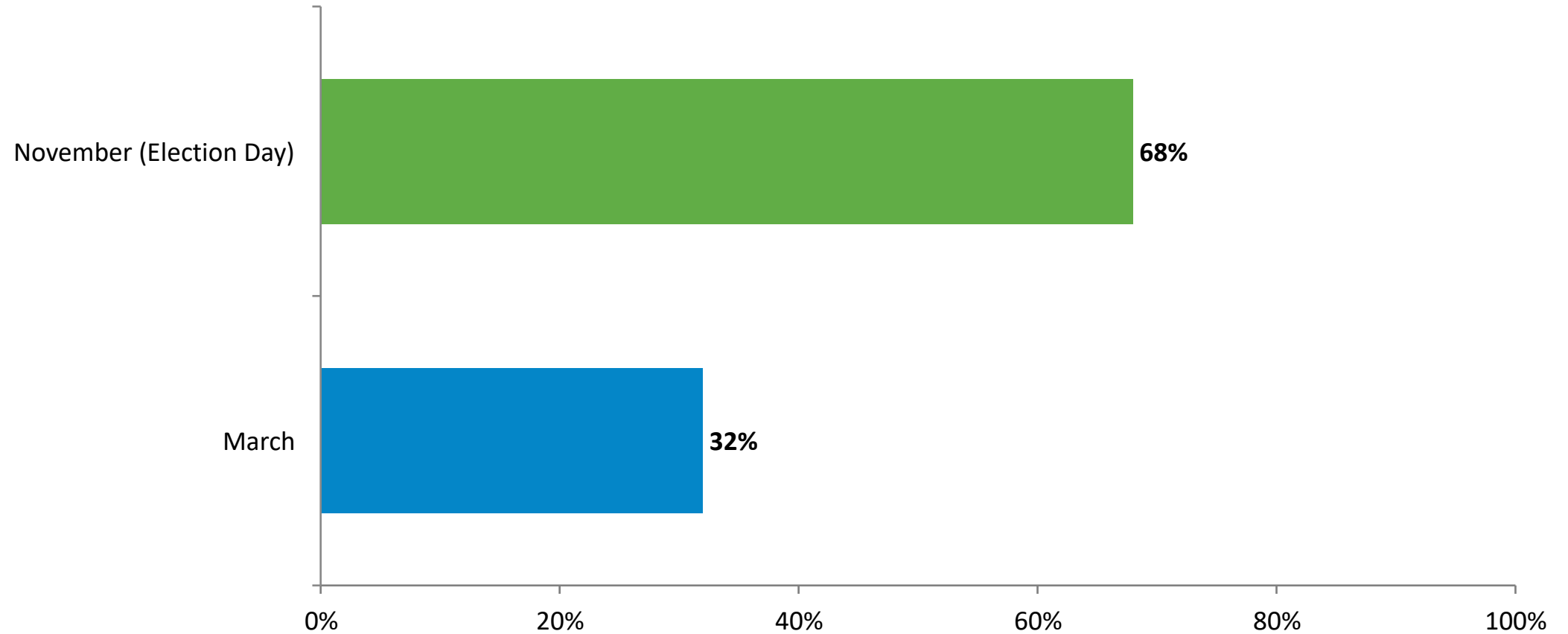
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(N = 63)



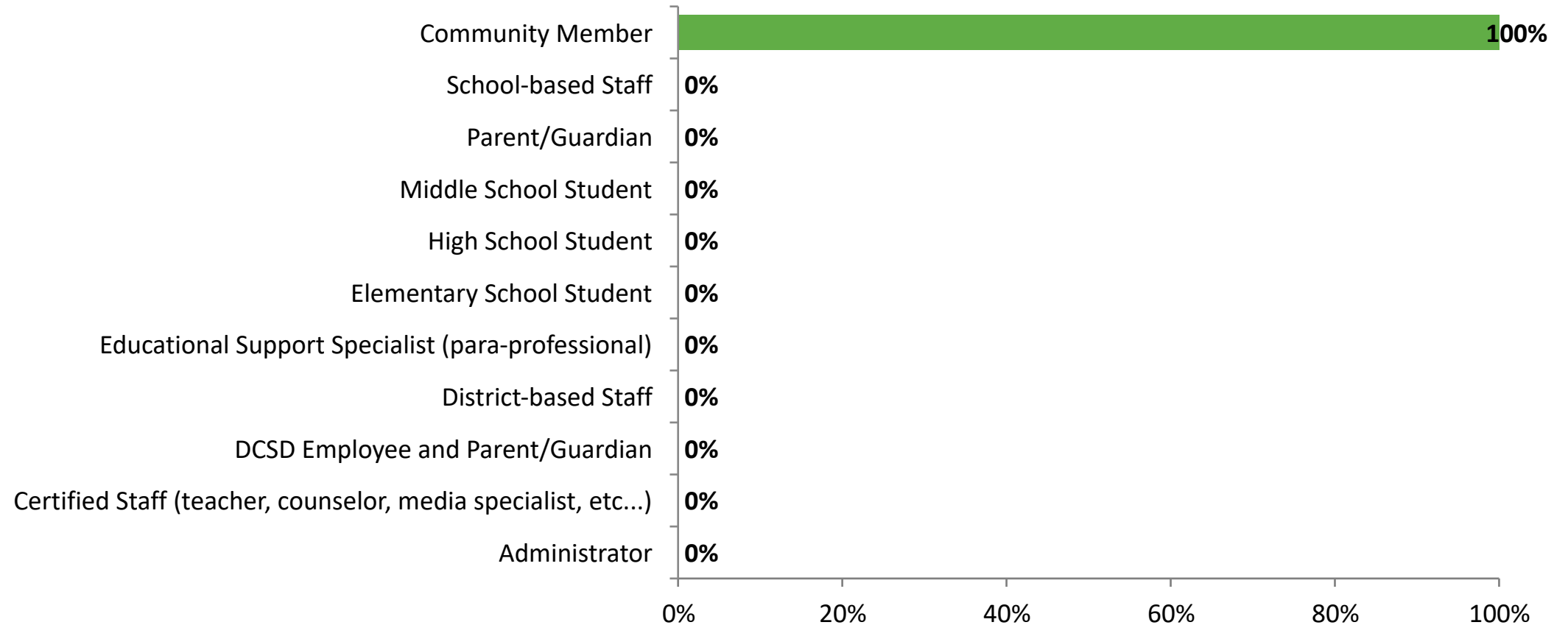
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 63)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 63)



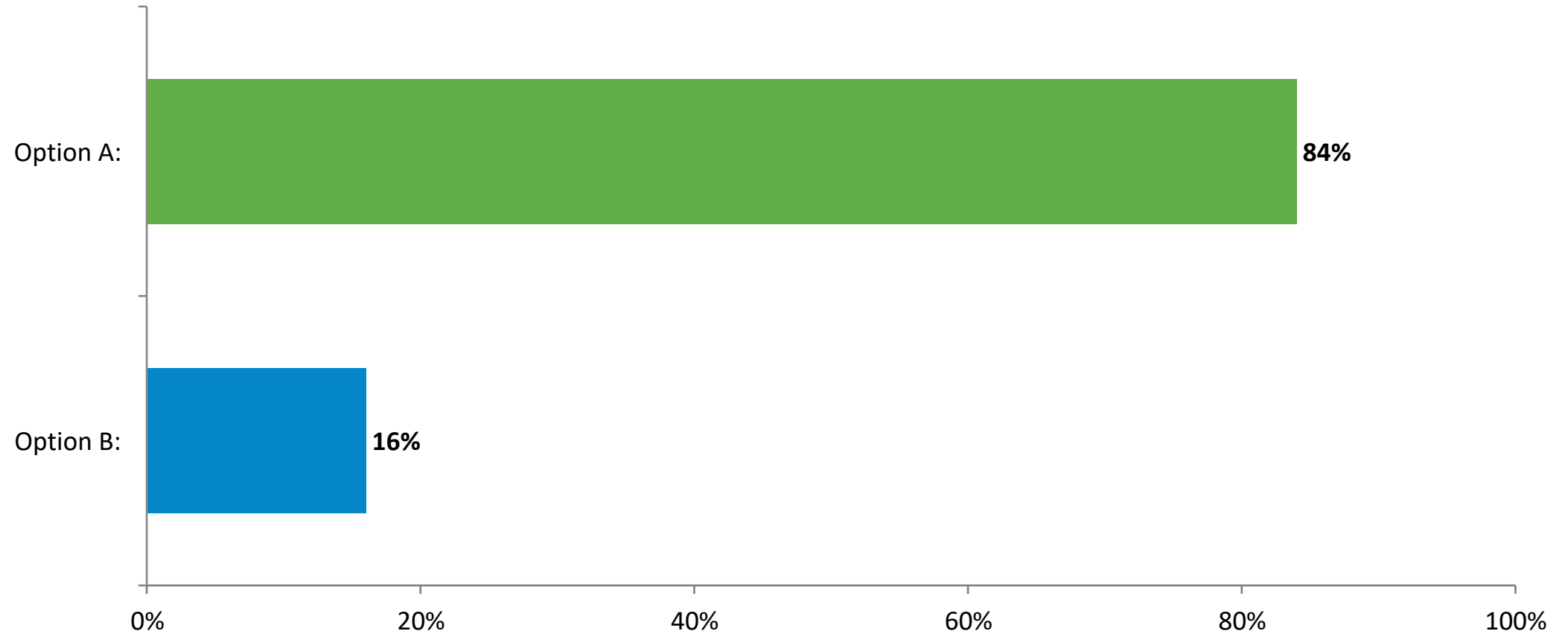


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - District Staff - Stakeholder

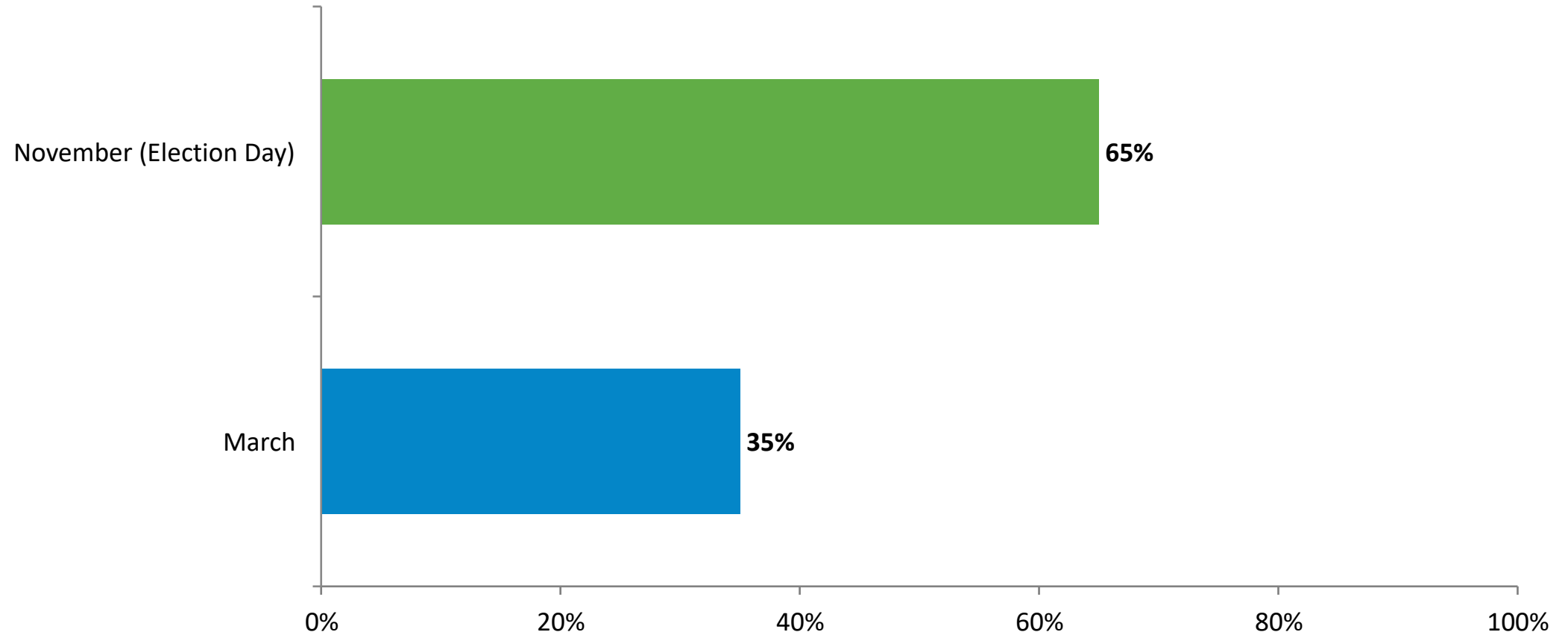
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(N = 125)



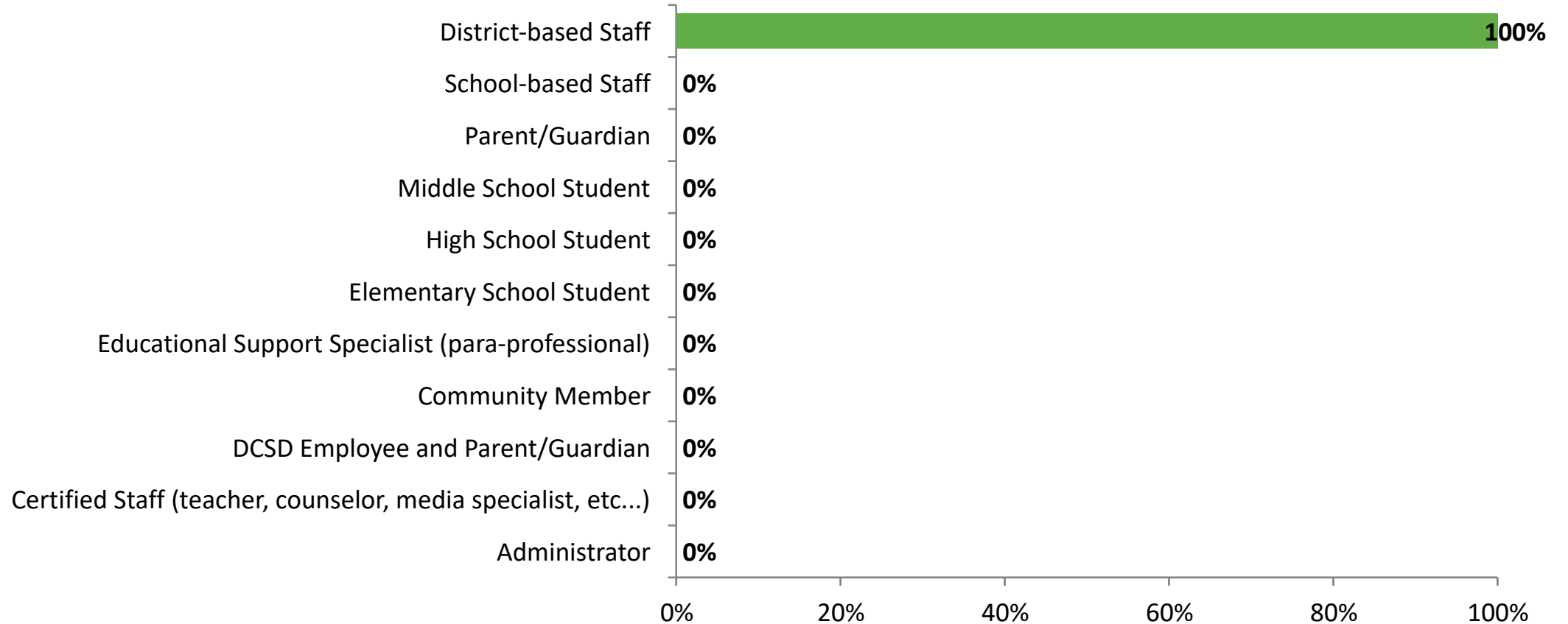
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 125)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 125)



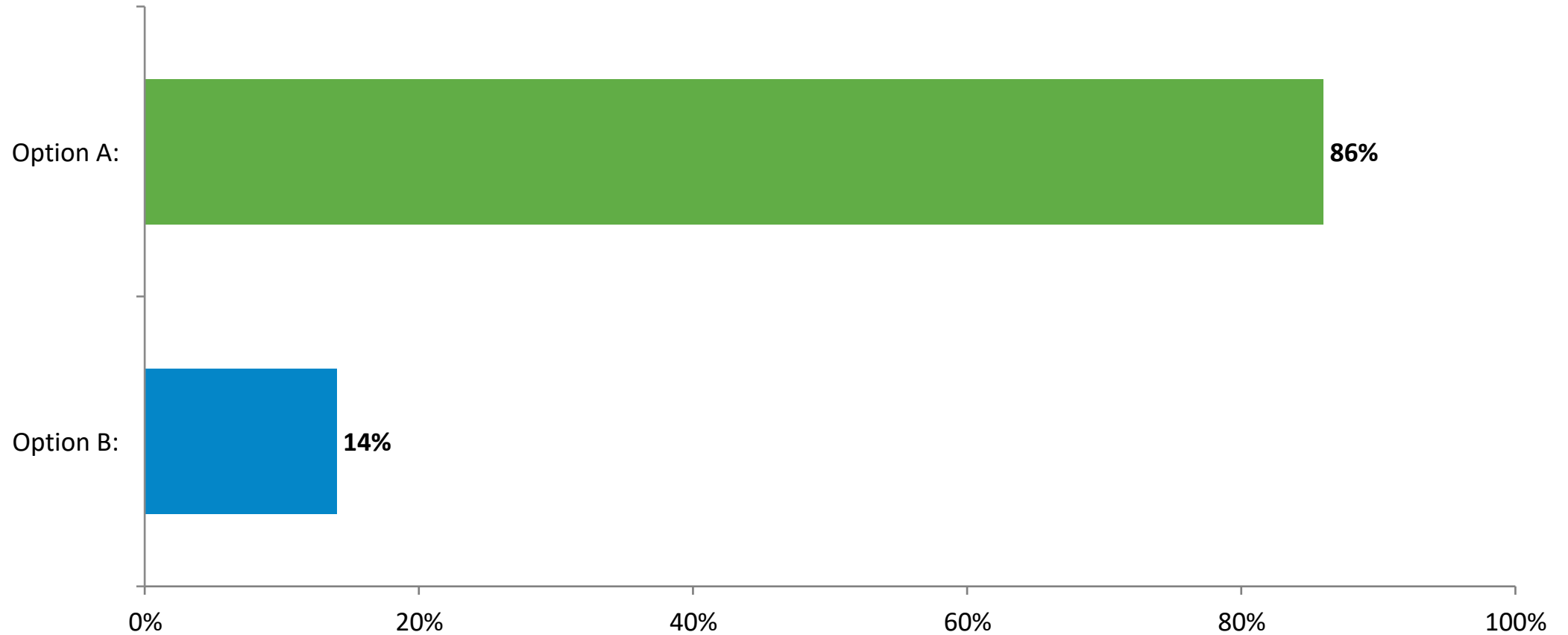


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Educational Support Staff - Stakeholder

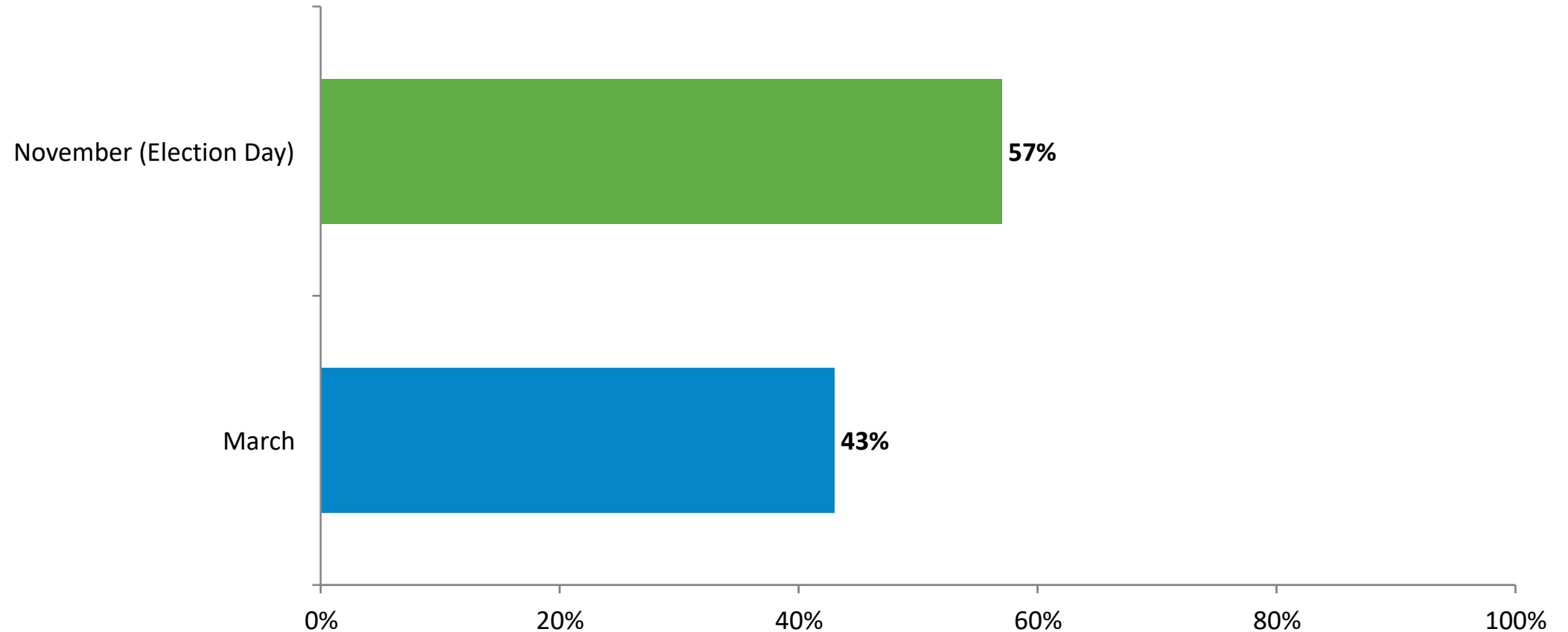
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(N = 96)



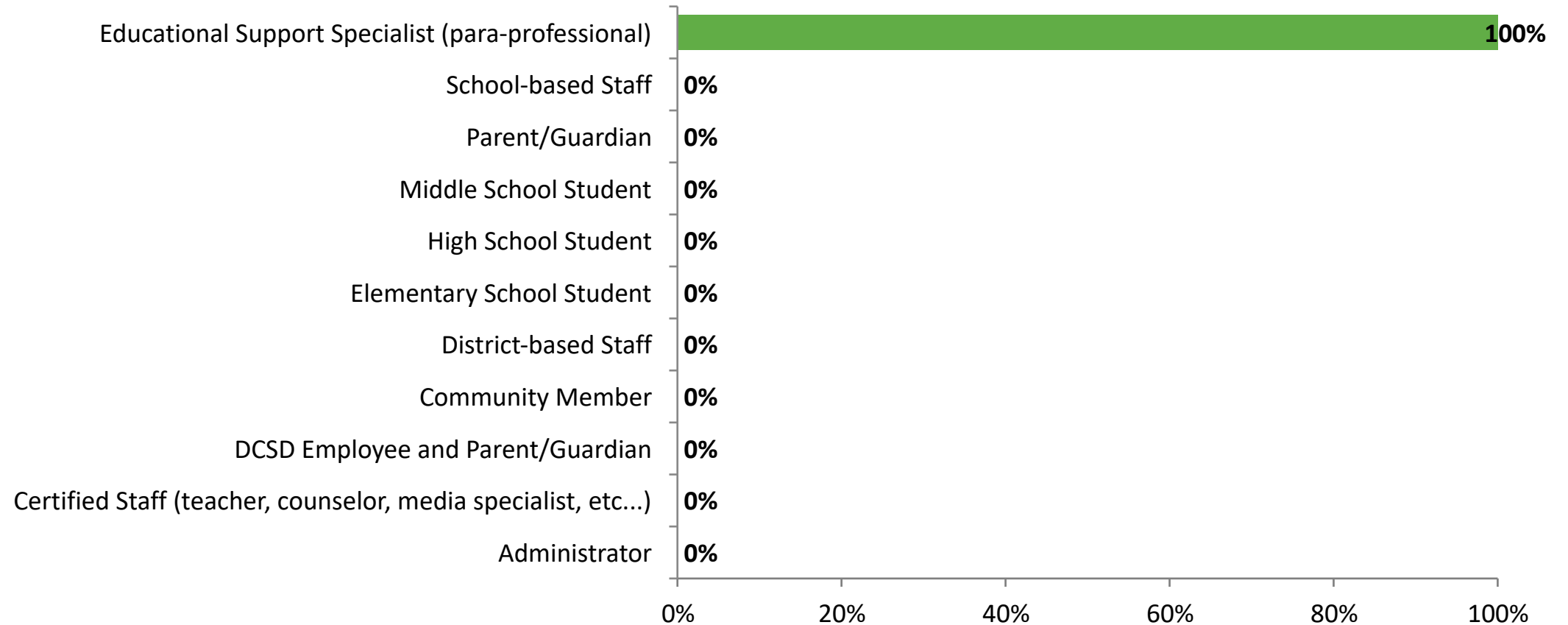
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 96)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 96)



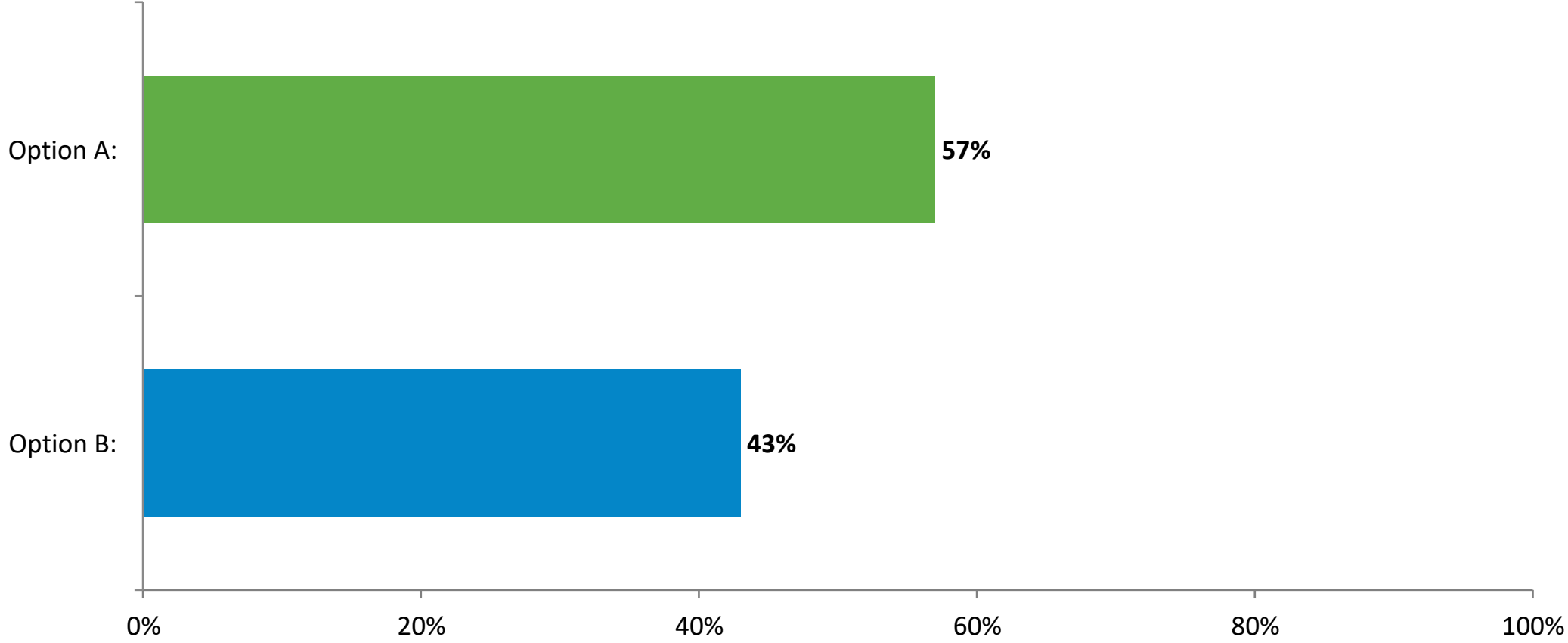


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Elementary Student - Stakeholder

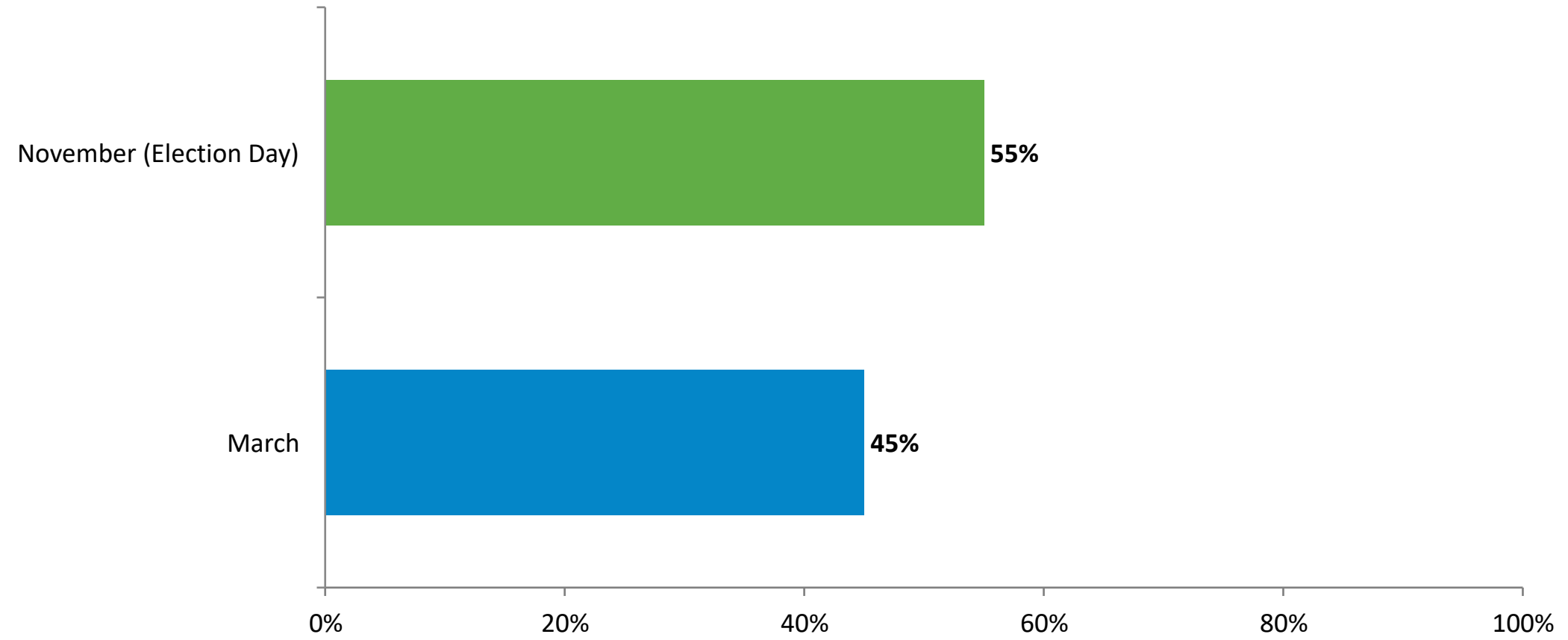
# Select your calendar option preference for the 2026-2028 SY.

(N = 69)



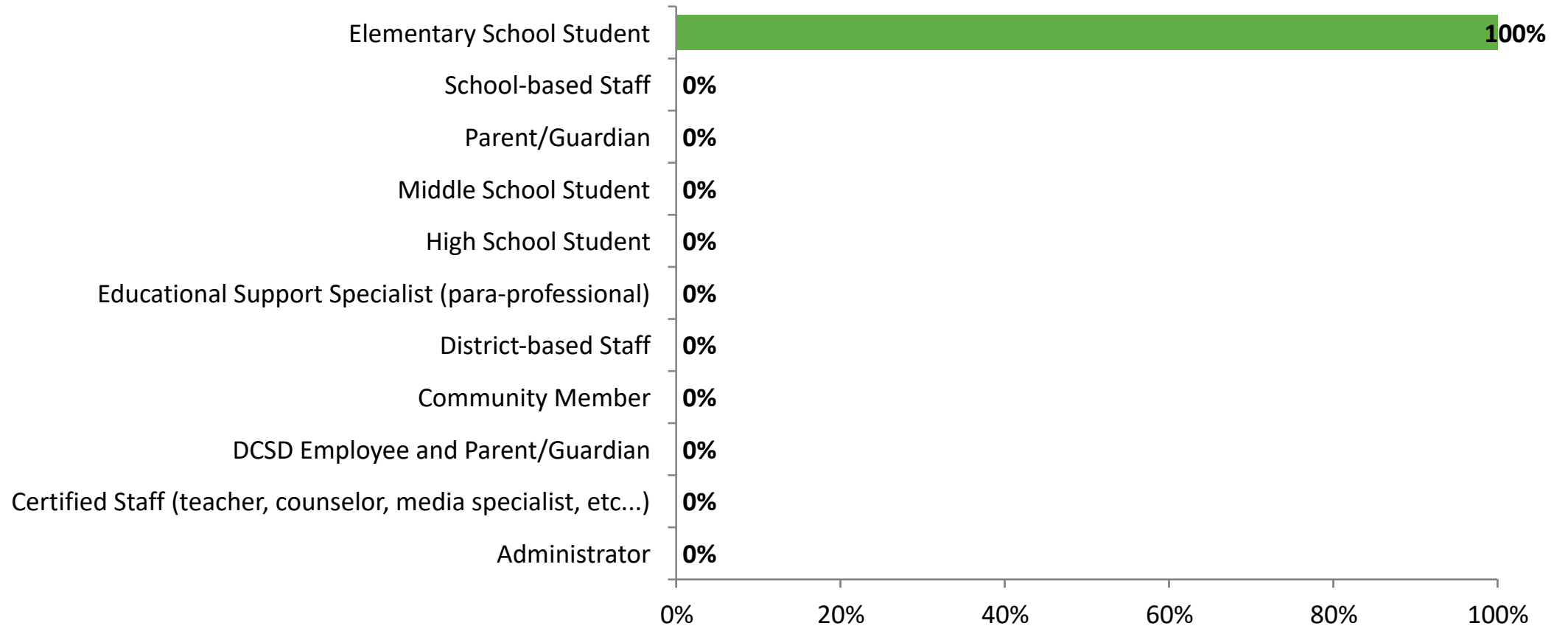
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 69)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 69)



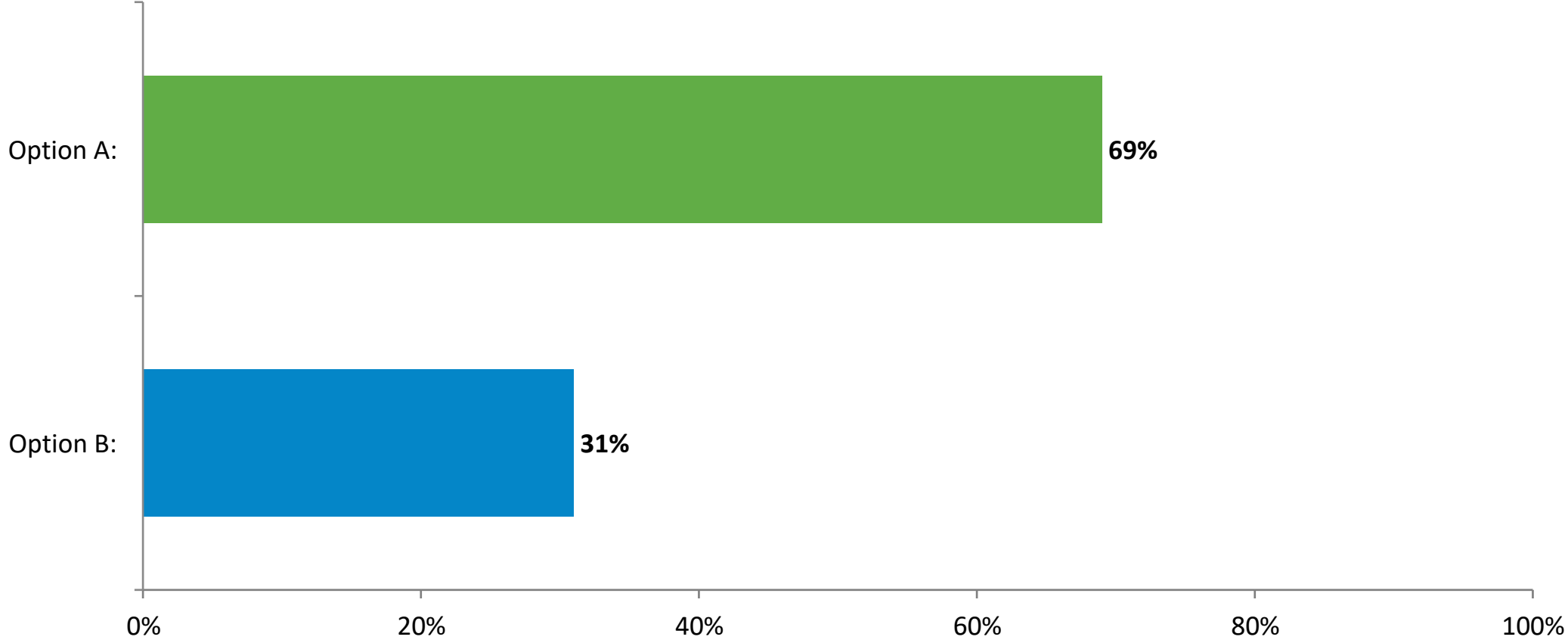


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - High School Student - Stakeholder

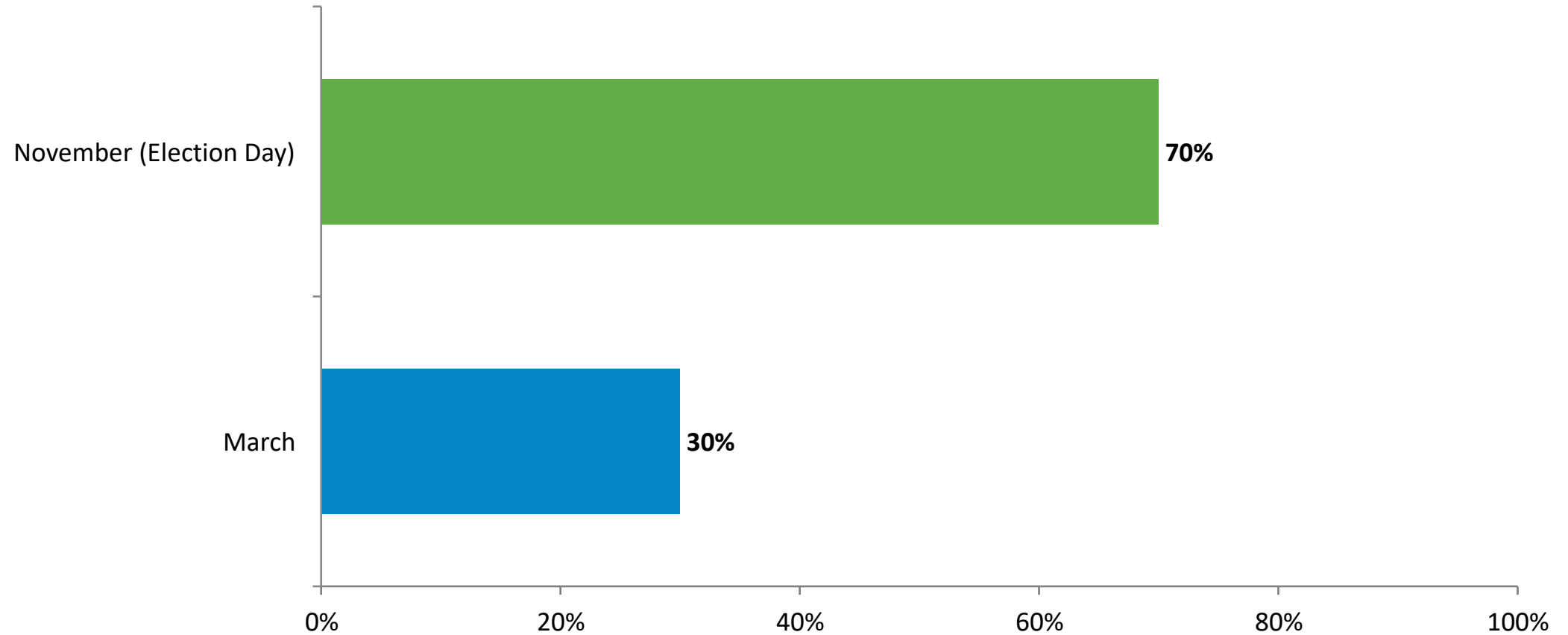
# Select your calendar option preference for the 2026-2028 SY.

(N = 77)



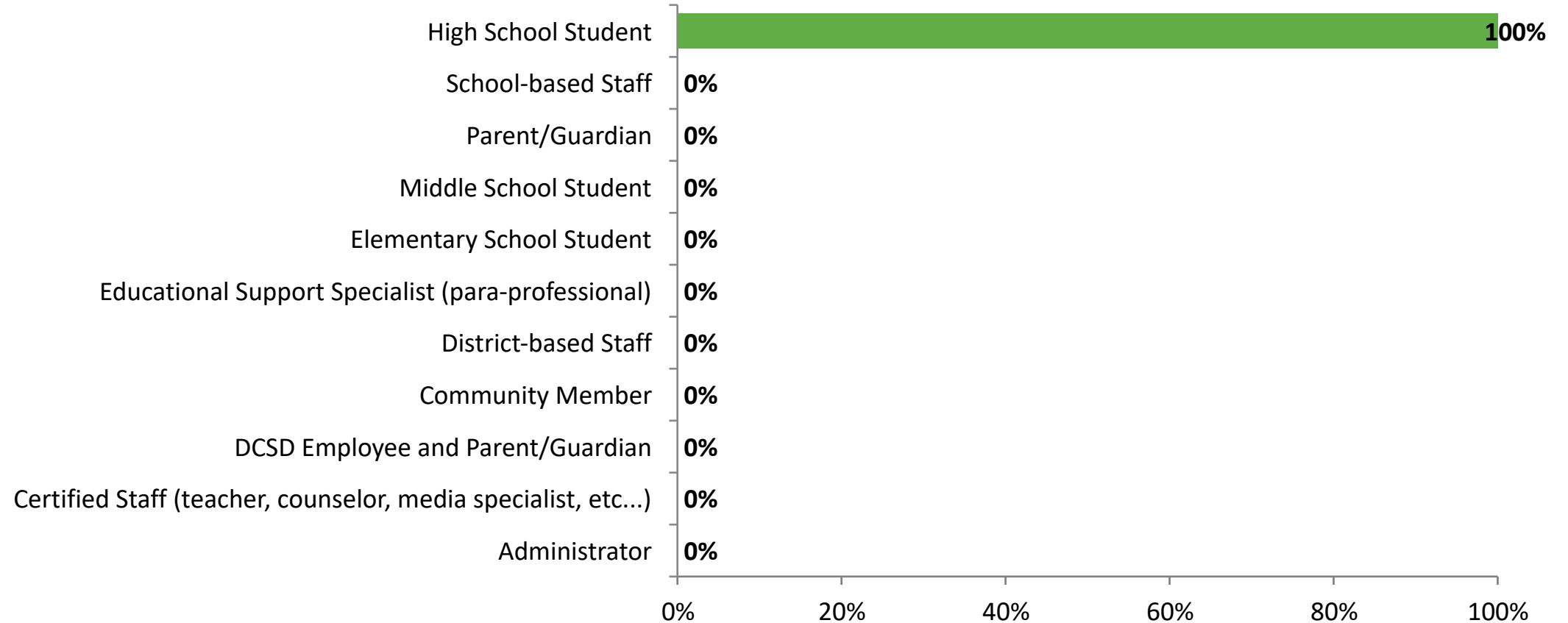
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 77)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 77)



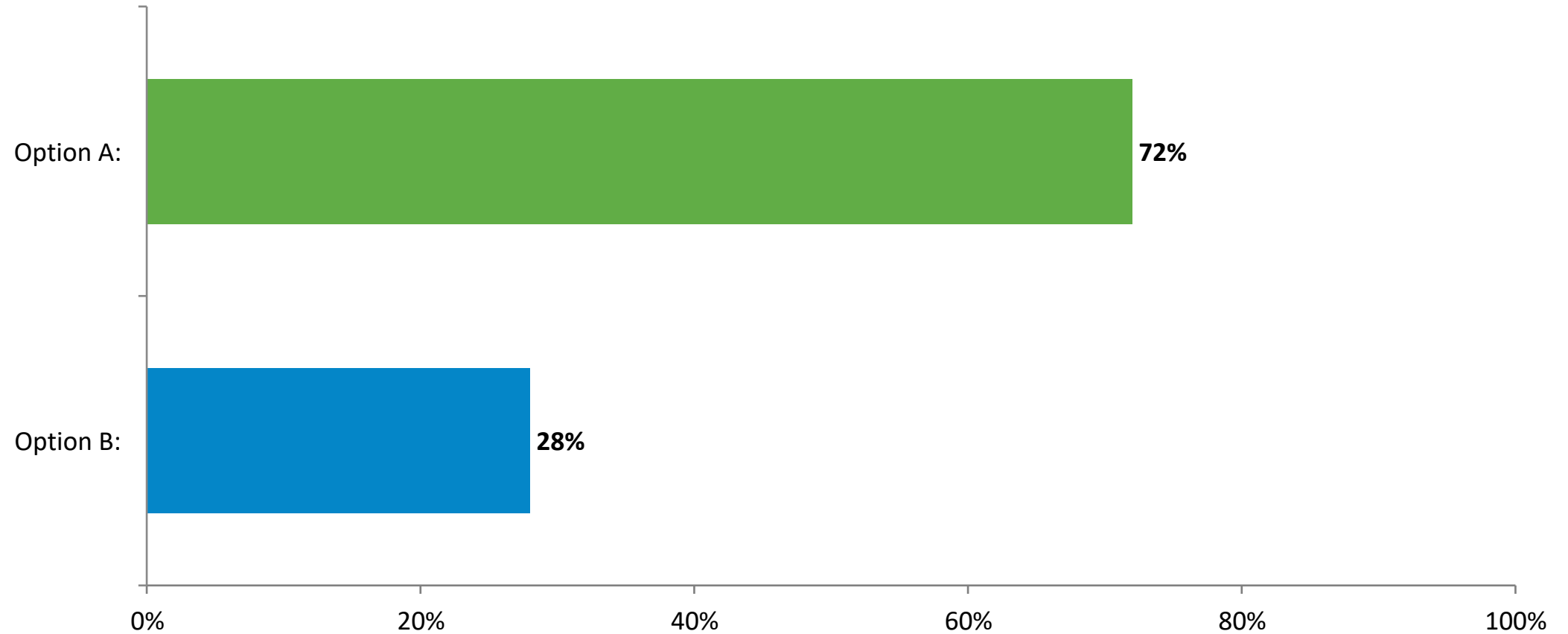


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Middle School Student - Stakeholder

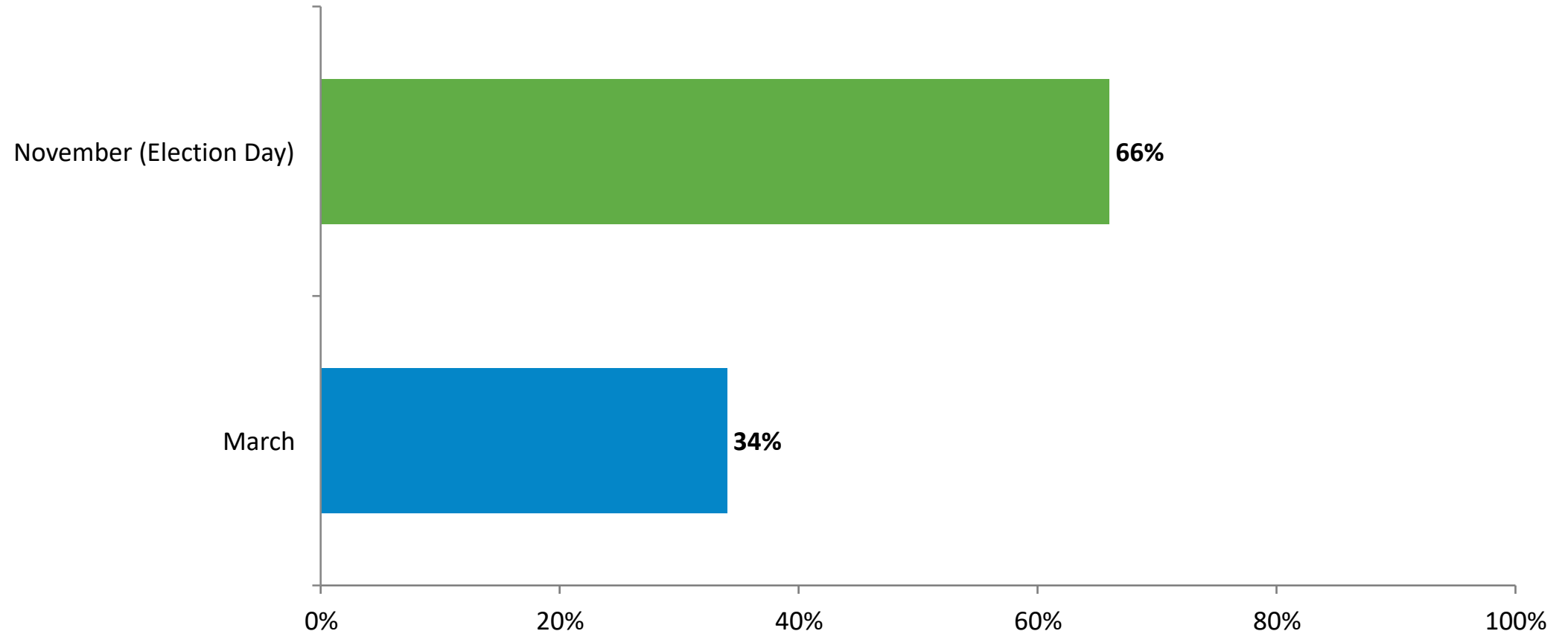
# Select your calendar option preference for the 2026-2028 SY.

(N = 32)



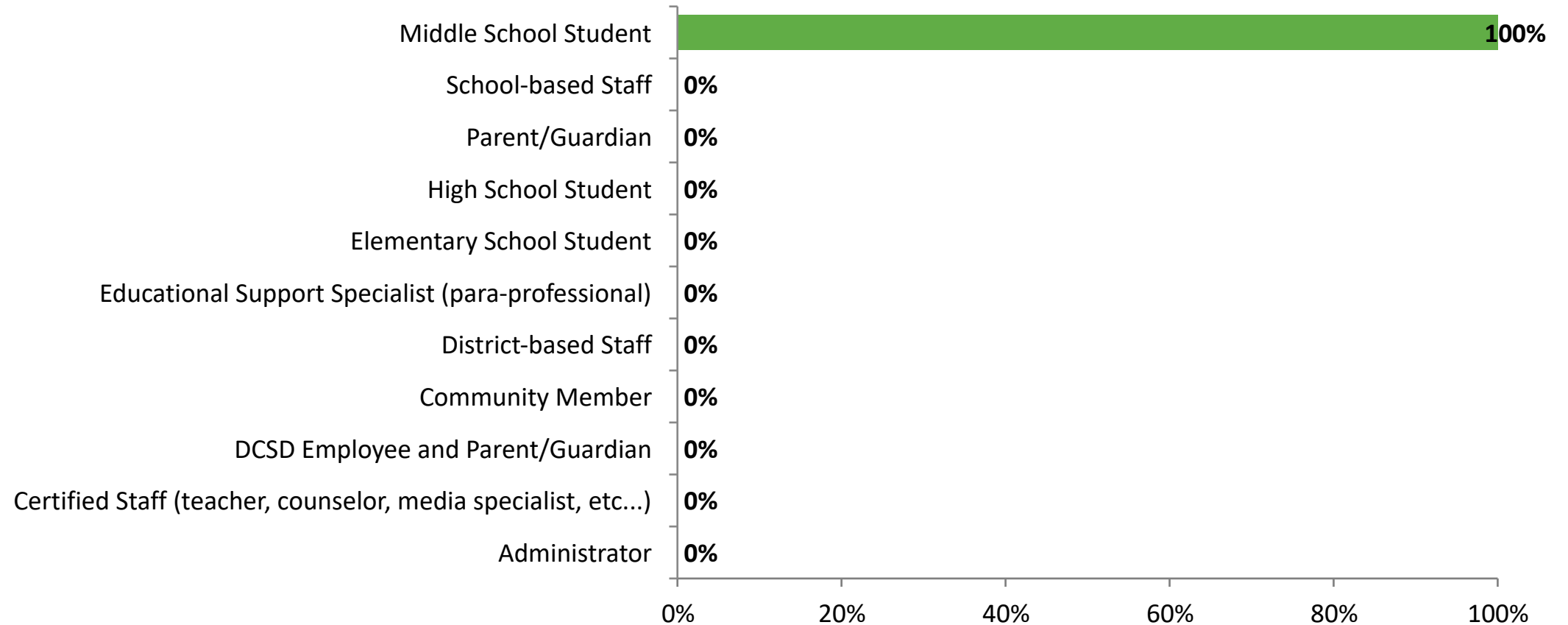
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 32)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 32)



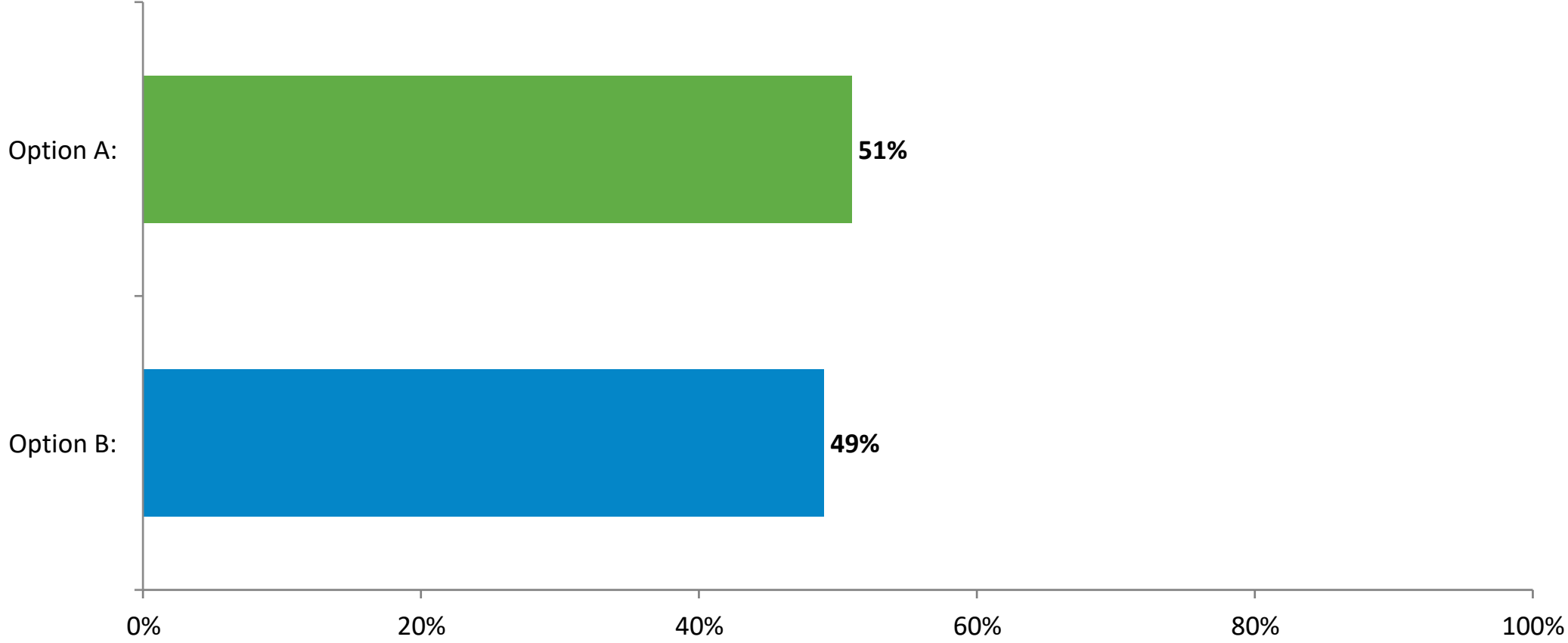


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - Parent/Guardian - Stakeholder

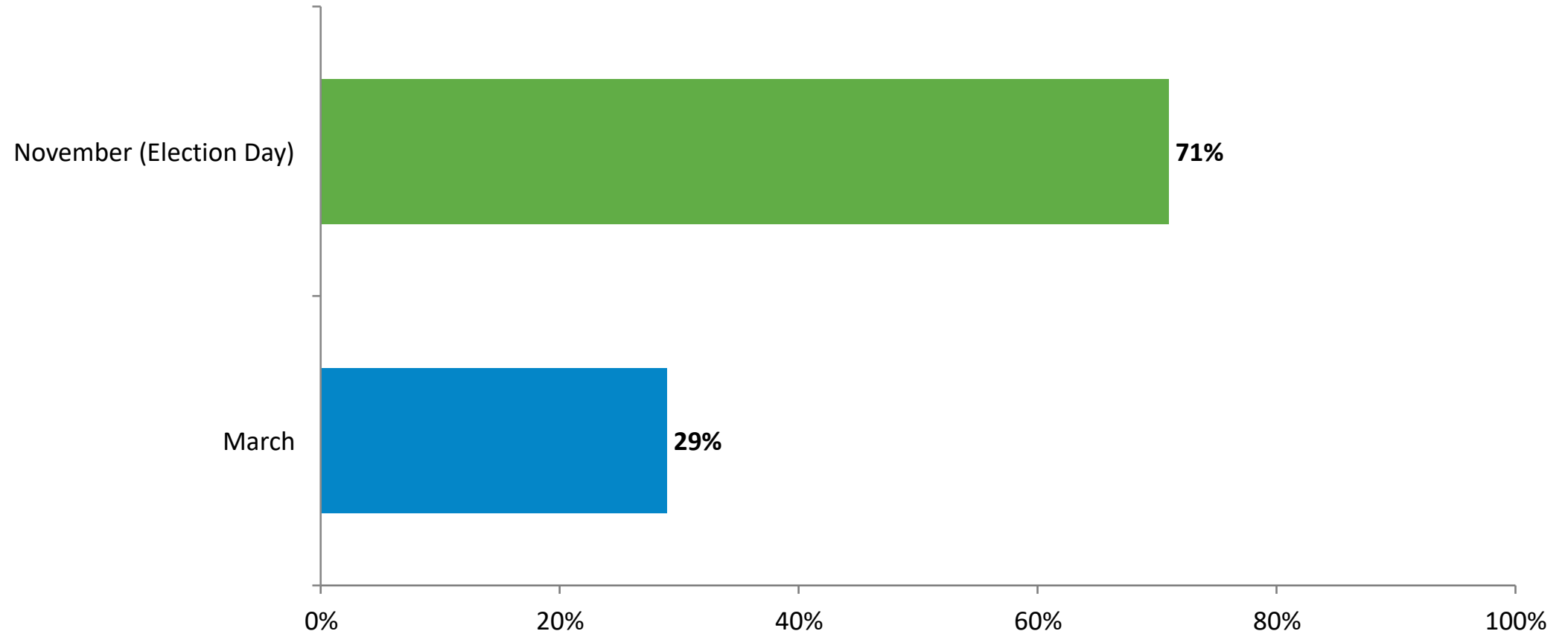
# Select your calendar option preference for the 2026-2028 SY.

(N = 1,693)



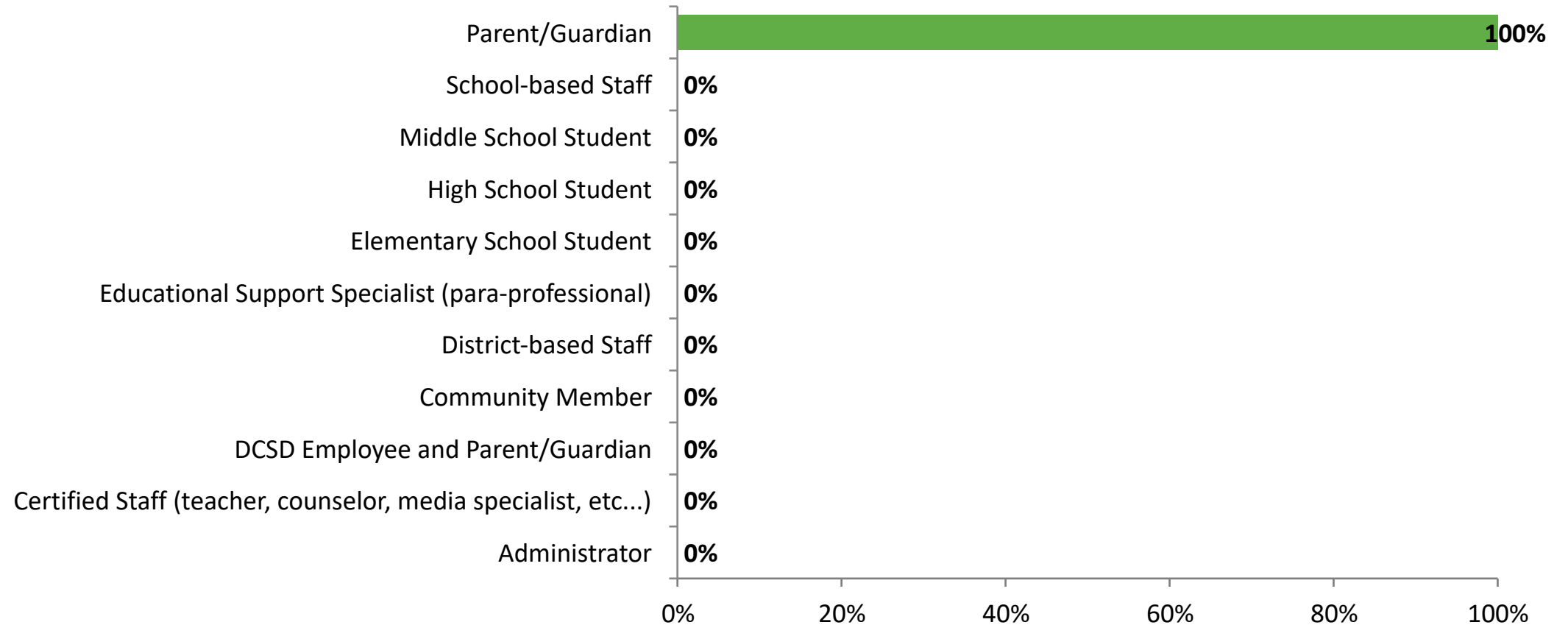
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 1,693)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 1,693)



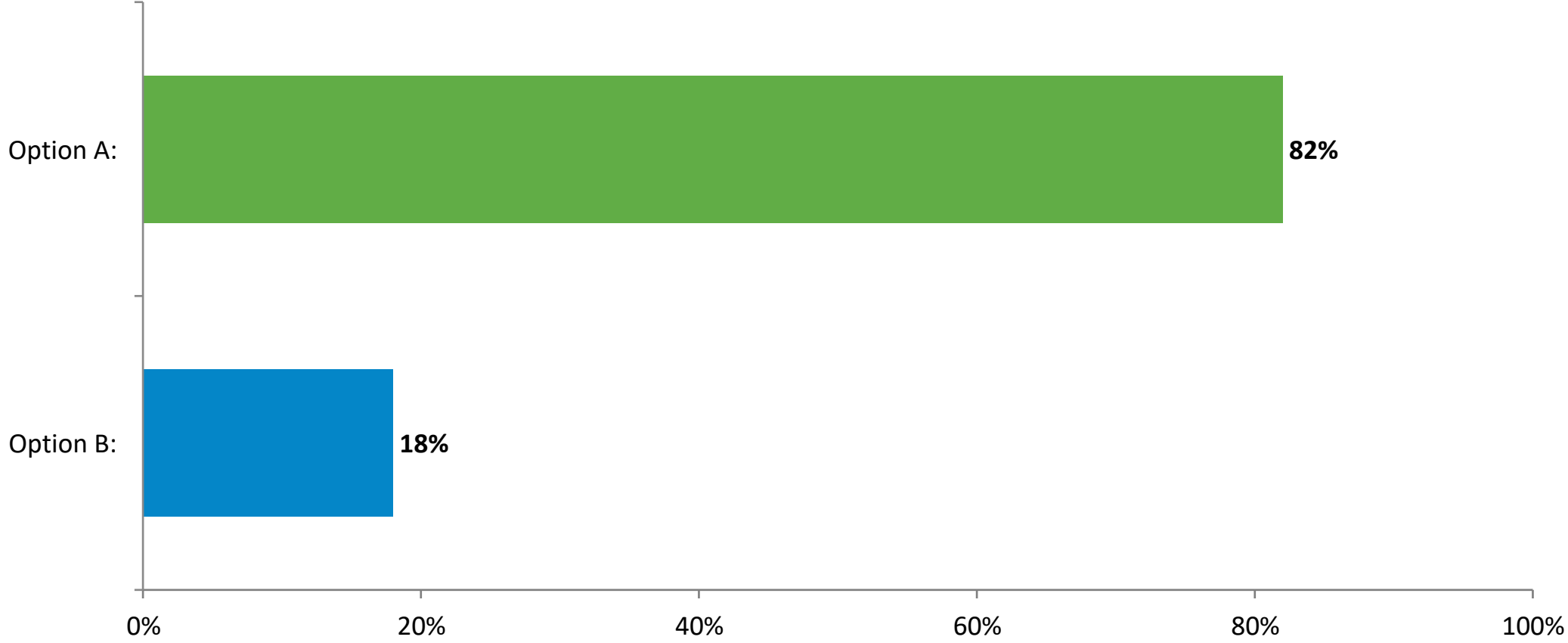


# Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY

October 2025 - School Staff - Stakeholder

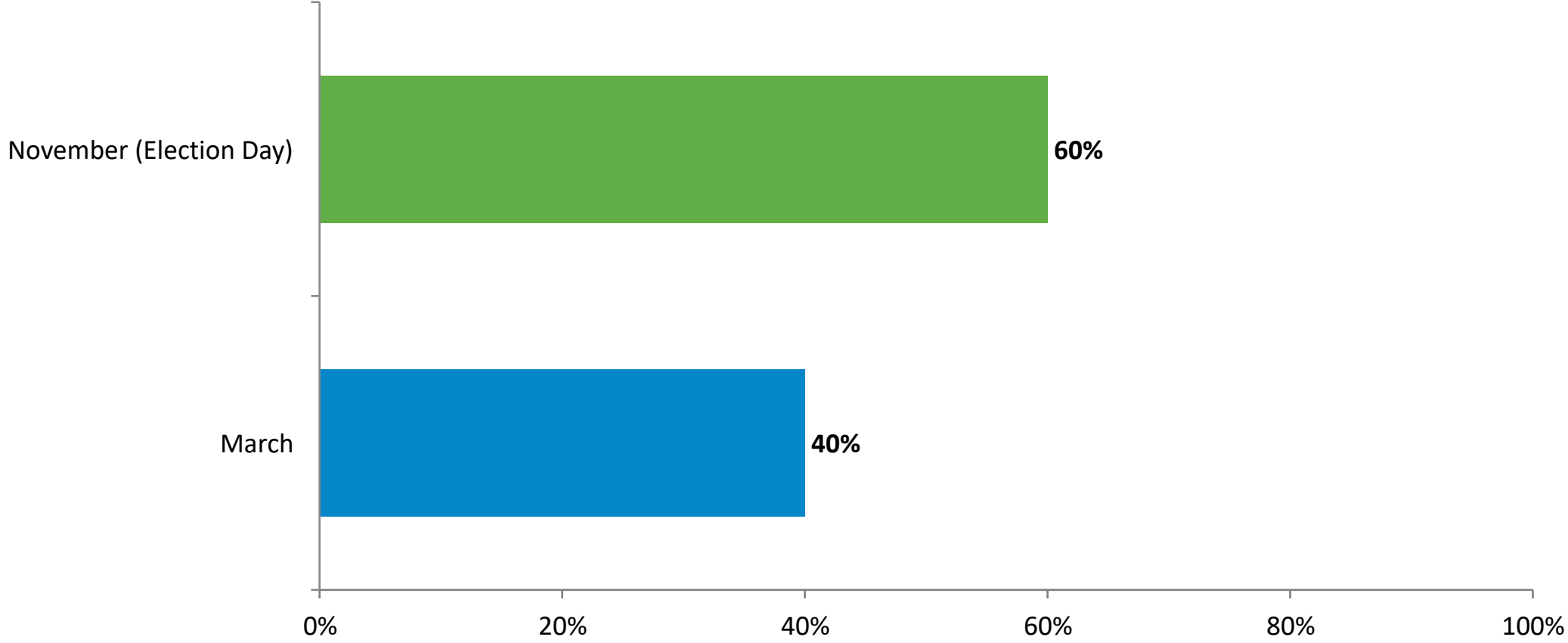
# Select your calendar option preference for the 2026-2028 SY.

(N = 212)



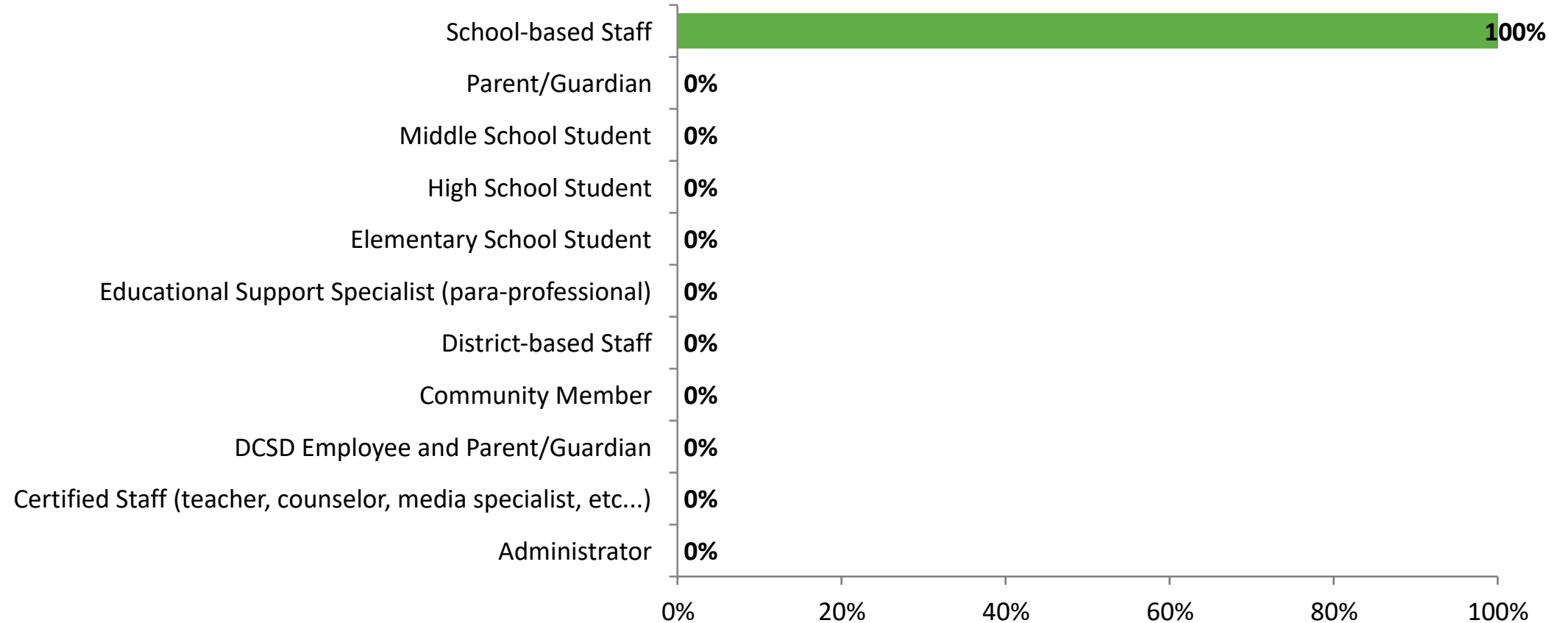
# Select your preference for when the Independent Learner Day will occur.

(N = 212)



## Select the stakeholder group that best represents your relationship with DeKalb County School District.

(N = 212)



<b>Report Title: 2026-2028 Calendar Survey Comments</b>	
<b>Survey Title: Calendar Survey for 2026 - 2028 SY</b>	
<b>Report Type: Verbatim</b>	<b>Language: All</b>
<b>Start Date:</b> 14-Oct-25	
<b>End Date:</b> 29-Oct-25	
<b>Completed:</b> 4,443	
<b>Filtered Responses:</b> 4,443	

Q5. Please share any additional comments or questions you have about the calendar options.
Response Text
Why do we go back so early? When I first started in the district, we came back in the middle of August and got out at the end of May or early June. The end of July is too early to return to school. A teacher's first week should be the 2nd week of August.
I think going to school until after Memorial Day has been a pretty unpopular decision generally. But on the flip side, they start back way too early. Not sure where the compromise is.
The calendar should be built to where students are getting out before Memorial Day.
I think the district seriously needs to consider starting school later in August. Maybe this should be revisited.
I'd prefer not having a week-long fall break. Dates for open house for each school should be published with the district calendar since it requires working parents to take a day off work.
It would be better to have the October break earlier to balance out the number of weeks without breaks before (10 weeks) and after it (5 weeks). The first 10 weeks without breaks are exhausting.
please release calendar for 28-29 at LEAST 1 year in advance like other districts. Summer camp sign ups start in Sept. and we have not lead the last few calendars until Nov/Dec. 9 months prior.
Disappointed that school could not finish before Memorial Day weekend.
DCSD should end the 3rd week of May before Memorial Day
Multiple week long breaks during the year make it incredibly difficult for parents who work and do not have the same time off in their schedules. I greatly prefer long weekends in the fall and spring vs a week. I am in full support of ending school before Memorial Day.
I'd like open house/orientation day to be posted IN the DeKalb schools calendar. #2 - I wish fall break was less than a week. Make it a F-T, and a little earlier in October. This is more reflective of Gwinnett school calendar.
The October break should be shortened or eliminated and school should be completed before Memorial Day.
Our family likes the fall break. We would like to stress that breaks should be time off for both teachers, staff, and students with no work. It's not a break if everyone is doing homework. If breaks aren't free from work and able to be family time, then give us the time back in the summer instead.
The fall break should be a week or two earlier. Take a look at Cobb.
Thank you so much for taking our input and having the option of starting school on a Wednesday and decreasing the days off in February. Option B is perfect!
Students and parents need breaks. Fall, winter and spring break is needed, never take it away
We need to keep the October and February breaks!
We do not need a full week for Fall Break or February break. Why is it not an option to return to the previous breaks at those times when we just had a long weekend? Instructional time is lost when we return after Memorial Day.
As a staff member the summers are getting shorter and shorter. Virtual teacher workdays are not necessary.

Those days should be off just like the students and treated as PD days BEFORE the breaks. I'm also a parent so it is difficult to be home and work.

School should end before Memorial day

I do not agree with having staff participate in virtual workdays or on federal holidays.

What were the results of the first survey that led to these options? Both options do not address the issues that were expressed which includes not having week long breaks and starting so early in August.

Please consider additional virtual days for students to provide additional professional learning days for teachers.

Publish EARLIER. Every year yall wait TOO LATE.

Please stop trying to low-key go to year round school. You can try doing that again after my kids graduate. It's not fair to working parents

I would love for the Independent Learner day to be a Monday or Friday instead of a Tuesday.

Don't like the full week in October. Start later in August and make October also a long weekend.

I did like option to end prior to Memorial Day weekend

Anything b4 the 2nd or 3rd week of Aug is not and always has been a terrible idea. The hottest mo of the year is ridiculous. U paying for air in the building, and all the buses do not have air, paying for the lunchtime and staff. buses drivers, fuel. It doesn't make sense they can go back after labo

I would like to make sure that students do not have to come back to school after Memorial Day. Starting in later August would also be preferable.

Thank you for ending the school year before Memorial Day! This really helps with summer vacation planning.

Please keep FULL week breaks (with virtual work days) for staff. That will be one of the most essential things that will determine if many of us teacher return or find a different county to work for.

Why is the fall break so late into the school year? These breaks are vital to students, parents, teachers et al and those first 10 weeks are a long, hard stretch. Can the fall break be moved up a week or 2 sooner?

I don't like starting on a Wed because for people who need childcare coverage, you have one more awkward half week to figure out. I much prefer the Monday start, plus it allows for the full week in February

The week long breaks are too often for elementary kids!!!!

Would really prefer an option with school ending prior to Memorial Day.

Independent learner days should not be equivalent to a school day, at least for grade school. My children are currently in 1st and 3rd grade and since they were in kindergarten, those days have not included significant learning.

Please clarify the pre/post planning days. Please keep us out of the building during Election Day. It's a safety issue.

I am both a parent(2 kids in Dekalb county schools) and a teacher. I strongly support options A mainly because I can find a camp to take my children in the last full week of July when I get back to work.

The preference would be to eliminate enough days from breaks to start school 1-2 weeks later. Consolidating time off during the summer reducing a/c costs for facilities during the hottest season and allows for readily available childcare options to working parents.

Please consider starting mid August and eliminating full week fall break!

I don't like starting the spring semester on a Tuesday. I think it makes more sense to start on a Monday.

I love the idea of starting school on a Wednesday. Going back for an entire week makes that first week so difficult for everyone.

Thank you for ending before Memorial Day!

This was not enough time difference to really make these calendars worth weighing in on. The long fall and winter break are disruptive to the overall learning process that is laden with other interruptions like testing throughout the year. The children need more time actually learning.

Starting school early in August is ridiculous. August should still be part of summer break.

School should start at 10 am for High school end at 7pm ...middle school 9 to 6, elementary 8 - 5 pm..Teachers need a raise not police! Property Tax dollars need to go to TEACHERS inside dekalb County PUBLIC school systems not private christian nationalist where racism and fascism is being taught.

Can we go back to 3 days for Thanksgiving? We don't need a whole week! Make a long wknd in March with the extra days.

Thank you for ending school before Memorial Day. So many working families count on that holiday to build a proper vacation break.

School calendars should adjust back to shorter, if not remove fall/winter breaks and give students a full 3 months off in summer. A lot of kids are only just decompressing after 4 weeks of summer and then have to go back in 4 weeks.

How come the school calendar is not set so staff/students can return mid to late August versus going back in July which is in the hot summer month. I think getting out later ie. June and going back later is more desirable.

Why do we need a week off in October? Give people a summer, start later in August. This is ridiculous.

Starting the school year during the first week of August is too early!

As an elementary teacher (K) I think it would be helpful to include either 1/2 days or a staff day for parent/teacher conferences. Thank you!

PLEASE go back to the long weekend for both fall (Oct) and winter (Feb) breaks and start school later in August. It is horrendous that kids go back to school at the beginning of August and summer gets shorter and shorter.

It is very difficult for working parents to have the 5 day fall and winter break in top of regular winter break and spring break. Please consider not doing these or doing one or the other.

Please align workdays with the end of the 9 weeks. I took home a ton of work to get ready for a new cohort & to put in 9 wk grades. As a connections teacher, I had my new students one week and then Fall Break. Had to reteach all of my classroom procedures & expectations today: What a waste of time

Where are the options for school to start AFTER the first week of August, and end BEFORE Memorial Day? Summer is too short!

Why does October break need to be 5 days? Why can't we start later in August? We don't need these week long breaks!

We don't want to go back to school after Memorial Day.

Fall Break should be shortened as well. Working parents are having difficulty with lengthy breaks during the school year. Also, independent learner day should be eliminated for similar reasons.

I am glad both options end before Memorial Day. There should be no independent learner days - creating homework for parents who already struggle to find childcare. Students do not need over a break over 2 weeks - shorten the holiday break and keep a week long winter break.

I really like the idea of Wednesday start and the last day being before Memorial Day.

Start later in August and have shorter breaks. There is no need for an entire week off in October. More virtual days, Charter schools Build in a lot of virtual days, this would work well for high School students during PSAT testing days where my student sat in homeroom all day without internet aces

Later start date would be better.

For working parents the two additional weeks off in October and February are very challenging. It's very expensive to put your kids in camp for that week and no one has multiple weeks of vacation they can take off. It would be so much better to go back to our schedule that gets the kids earlier in M

Bring back the end of school year either the 21,22, or 23rd of May just like before and like other school districts. No reason to end a week later than everyone else.

Please start the school year later in August! It is so hot and many of us have extended families & college students that don't start school until almost September, which makes our only time to visit with them in Jul. Kids should be in summer until mid/late Aug, not preparing back to school in Jul.

Fall break falling on early application day for college is hard for seniors, parents, and counselors -Oct 15. It is also the dual enrollment deadline

Do we really have a day in these polls?

The week long October break needs to END. Start school later, end it earlier instead of this break right in the middle of fall.

Please go back to having the end of school prior to Memorial Day if Option B takes away days in Feb 2026 and Feb 2028

I would prefer starting in the middle of August and getting out in the middle of June.

I tried multiple ways, but I was unable to view the option B dates for 2027-2028. I'm assuming they are similar to the options for 26-27. I am voting for the Wednesday start in August and the shorter February break.

Having two options is great. Another option where we had 3 days off for the October and February breaks would be ideal. Then kids could go back a couple days later to start and not the extra week long break. Back to more like the calendar two plus years ago.

I think various cultural holidays should be considered when choosing breaks (Yom kippur, Diwali, Eid) a large population of students are out on these days and they should be days we consider as holidays that the district acknowledges.

End the school year before Memorial Day weekend

The break in October is too late and close to thanksgiving. Also for teachers that coach we end up working the whole break anyway. I'd much prefer a long weekend and a longer summer instead for the October and February breaks.

Please ensure the school year ends before Memorial Day

I wish the calendar shifted more, so that we started later in August with fewer breaks.

I love Option B! Thanks for listening to our feedback!

I think independent learner days should be used exclusively for inclement weather conditions.

I want to say THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU for keeping the fall and winter break options in October and February. I have personally found over the years in a previous school system and in DeKalb, behavior and overall attitudes are better when a significant "break" is given every 6 to 7 weeks! :)

Is it possible to make county wide test days (PSAT, SAT) as independent learning days?

We need to stop moving up the first day of school and better align our school year with other parts of the country where summer break is held during summer months, which includes August.

I would like to see an option where school starts on a Wednesday, full week break in February... if possible

I am writing to respectfully request that the district explore the possibility of implementing a 4-day school week as an alternative schedule for our schools. This model has been adopted in a growing number of districts across the country, especially in rural or budget-conscious areas.

Be more like Gwinnett or Cobb or even Fulton schedules.

I don't think we need a full week off in October and February. I'd like to see the fall and winter breaks shortened to make summer break a little longer.

I truly wish we could start later in August, then not need a whole week in October off, and we don't need the full week in February either. Long weekends are fine in order to start the second Monday or Wednesday in August.

It would be beneficial for the day of graduation (per school) to be an asynchronous day for teachers/students so that graduating seniors are able to celebrate with those teachers/staff who have impacted their high school years.

We have too many breaks. Shorten the fall break as well and push back start day some more.

If there are inclement weather days, I would much prefer for those days to be no-school rather than independent learner days. The days could be made up from the February break. We both work and are expected to work from home on weather days. Last year I felt cheated out of school days for my son.

There are several staff members who do not live in Dekalb and have students in other school districts. Having calendars that align with neighboring counties (Henry, Cobb, Clayton, etc) would be very helpful. This could also reduce employee absences as they won't have to take the time off.

I feel like we could shorten fall break as well. A week off in October seems excessive.

Thank you for getting rid of all the day out of school. Makes it much easier for working parents

Option A aligns with the October and February break of many neighboring issues. I also think these breaks will boost student and staff morale.

The 12 month employees should also be on break when the teacher's are on break for at least 3 of those days.

Professional development days in March are not useful because it is so late in the year. That day in March should be a teacher workday and the PD day during 2nd semester should be earlier.

12 month employees should be given the option to work virtual during the Fall and Winter Break

Why is there no option to propose a shorter fall break? Our family would rather have the full week in February and shorter break in October

Why do they need a full week off in October and one in November!! Also, why are the kids starting school at the BEGINNING OF AUGUST???? it's 100 degrees in Atlanta and their summer is too short

Thank you for ending the school year before Memorial Day weekend in the coming years.

I would rather have a short October break and full length February one. Then that would be my first choice. Why is shortening February the option? There are fewer breaks second semester already.

I really think a Wednesday start would be AMAZING and have thought this for YEARS!!! Thank you for considering this. It would be so beneficial. The first week of school (M-F) is so long and exhausting.

Having more breaks in between has helped me feel better and I hope we continue this! Option A is better because it includes the most breaks.

The summer is too short at 9 weeks. Give our children their summers! The calendars do not listen to parents who do not want a week-long fall or February break. Reduce breaks and delay the start of school in August. These options are essentially the same. Voting between two similar options is a joke!

I propose that the district formally close operations for all staff to honor and reflect on the rich histories, cultures, and contributions of Indigenous communities. Observing Indigenous People day as an official district holiday aligns with our core values of equity, inclusion, and respect for all

Why do the kids have to end by Memorial Day? I'd prefer a starting date later in August. The early August start does not align with other schools nationwide to enjoy the summertime and camps before school starts so early. I'd also like to see kids in school Mon and Tues of Thanksgiving week.

I do not think that either the October nor the February break should be an entire week. It's very difficult for working parents.

We don't need as many breaks. The students retention level is much lower than it used to be.
I would love for fall break to also align with other districts.
We have kids all cultural backgrounds so we can do instructional day on their festivals day, and more parents encouraged to take part in classroom learning activities like describing your festival so kids learn more about their community. It's just suggestions thank you DeKalb county
School should end before Labor Day. And start after the 1st week of August.
Why does it change drastically every year?
It would be great to have winter break with other surrounding counties.
It would be great to have winter break with other surrounding counties.
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It would be great to have winter break with other surrounding counties.
It would be great to have winter break with other surrounding counties.
It would be great to have winter break with other surrounding counties.
I would like to shorten October break to a long weekend and students get out before memorial day
Would like to have Feb break with other counties.
Would like to have Feb break with other counties.
I just want to say thank you for both options getting us out before Memorial Day!
I would like no virtual learning days. Too hard on working parents. Especially when weather related.
Why is there a whole week at a Thanksgiving, 5 weeks after a whole week for Fall Break? And then we have Holiday Break 3.5 weeks after Thanksgiving. This makes no sense. The Feb break should be 1 week since there is no long break except a MLK weekend and then nothing until Spring Break.
Winter break right after a long Christmas break and before Spring break feels unnecessary. Very curious the reason for this. I think most families would prefer to give that up and be out of school before Memorial Day.
No PL Day in March (Teacher Workday)
I don't like the full week off in October and a full week off in February. It is so hard for my kids to get back in the swing of school and routine.
Can we start the first Monday in August, have a three day break in February and end school earlier than May 27th?
No more Independent Learner Days, please. Also, have a district-wide designated Conference Week (M-F) with early release days where all parents get an opportunity for a conference, at least elementary and middle schools. Cobb does this!
I don't think coming back after Memorial Day is productive. It cuts into GHSA dead week. Students also come back those 3 days and act out. Take away some of our breaks so we can be done before Memorial Day. Those are wasted days
There should be no independent learner days. The kids do nothing at home and it takes 5 min to complete assignments. Kids should be in school!
Getting out prior to Memorial Day is maximizing opportunity for learning. Once the Chromebooks are collected makes assignments more challenging for staff and students.
Why do we have to start so early? Get rid of the February break all together!
Please don't change the current school calendar. It works just fine. If it isn't broken don't fix it.
Is there any way to make the Fall break a full week and schedule the virtual pd day on another date?
Let's just make school year round, and allow parents to schedule vacations on their own. Studies show

students lose a lot of what they learn over summer break.

Starting with option B, you could start the school year 2 or 3 more days later and shorten the October break 2-3 days. When students miss an entire week of school, they completely get thrown out of their schedule and it takes multiple days to get them back on track. Having 2 short weeks is better!

In the future, could the Fall Break be moved to be halfway in between the end of summer break and Thanksgiving Break? Trudging through ten weeks of school without a break was awful; I need that time off to get the work done we aren't allowed to do in our planning periods because of meetings!

I was disappointed to see that the custodial staff got no days off during the fall break. They are also understaffed at some schools yet being micromanaged

PLEASE forget the desire to balance instructional days in 1st and 2nd semester. Starting in early August is too hot for so many buildings where the A/C is broken. PLEASE reduce the number of breaks. PLEASE start later in August. PLEASE continue later in May/early June.

Why can't we go back to the old calendar?

Why can't students begin school later on August?

My preference would be for school to start on the second Monday in August.

There should be shorter breaks so the students are not in school until the end of May

I dislike losing Columbus Day/Indigenous Day since the rest of the school districts celebrate it. (I personally used it for an annual exam which is no longer possible.) We need a day off in March. Reduce Feb break. Change Oct. back to Fri, Mon, Tue.

One week in fall is absurd. Let's not cater to the minimum, let's push for more than that.

These calendars do not allow much time off for 12-month employees. Even though 12-month employees accrue vacation time, mental health days are still important. If you are a new 12-month employee, you have no time accrued. 12-month employees should receive time off for mental health or we leave!

Ending before Memorial Day is more important than starting 2 days later in August.

When creating virtual professional development days for teachers, the district is in essence, making teachers and participants in professional development due two days worth of work and attend a full day of meetings for two days worth of pay.

I would prefer to not have a break in October nor in February. Then go back later in August.

Virtual days are boring and need a facelift, we need inventive and effective learning methods designed for all employees.

No February Break

Going back the last few days after Memorial Day is complete nonsense. We need to end the year before Memorial Day. Why send kids the last two days to just play games and watch movies. Take the extra days from fall and winter breaks. We don't need a week off during those times.

Stop having virtual teacher work days during the fall and winter breaks. It greatly reduces the number of consecutive days we have and limits the locations we are able to travel. Those work days are nothing but busy work, the precise thing you tell us not to do as teachers.

Stop having a week off in October. Let students and teachers have off Fri/Mon instead of a week. Let teachers start work Aug 3rd, NOT in July. Make admin have ALL training prepared and completed by teachers during pre-planning. Give us a calendar option to vote for that doesn't include Oct week off.

Please try to coordinate with Gwinnett County Public Schools for October and February breaks. Many of us have children in that district.

I would prefer to have no Independent Learner days. My kids do not learn anything new that day and it's really difficult for working parents to figure that day out. It's too often missed work, a paid day off, or the kids are home alone. Plus, the teachers do two days worth of work in a single day.

This doesn't seem to take into account the option for a mid August start and having less breaks.
Why don't we consider half days/early release days for conferences like Gwinnett
We prefer fewer mid-year days off and starting later and ending the year earlier.
Longer summers with less multiple weeks off would be ideal. This schedule is atrocious for working parents who have to pay fo additional childcare.
Is there an option to use those two days in the beginning of the year and add on summer days in May after Memorial Day?
End by Memorial Day. It is silly to come back for a couple of days.
The options are not appreciably different. I would have preferred to see two very different from each other options
Do we really need a fall break? They have a full week at Thanksgiving. "Independent learning" day is a joke. Stop with the remote/digital learning days. The kids get maybe 30 minutes of work online and it is essentially a day off. Covid is long over and remnants like this need to be eliminated.
There are too many breaks that draw the year out and disrupt learning.
School should not start until the end of August or after Labor Day and out in June. You are sending kids to school during the hottest month and most schools don't even have air conditioning
Will there be consideration in the future of closing the central offices when the schools are closed during any of the breaks (fall, Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring)?
It would be a preference to shorten scheduled weeklong breaks during the school year in order to have the last day of school be before Memorial Day.
What about spring break
We should end school before Memorial Day.
Please consider half days for finals at the high school level.
What happened to regular teacher workdays? It is very hard to get things done in my classroom when we are giving virtual teacher workdays. Also, why do we have more professional developments days instead of teacher workdays?
Remove BOTH the October and February week long breaks. Just a long weekend in Oct and long weekend in Feb.
Why can't we have a break in September instead of October? Have you ever looked at Cobb County's calendar?
Do the kids still get spring break?
I think a full week for fall break is too much. The previous calendars that gave a Fri and Monday off and had the school year start later in August were better for kids and parents.
I believe the independent learner day should be in both November and March. The virtual day in October is considered a federal holiday so teachers should not be required to work at all.
Thank you for making the calendar so that the students get out of school prior to Memorial Day in 2027 and 2028!
if you can clarify, what are all of the holidays that teachers would have off?
I don't think you listened to the feedback
Why has the last day of school shifted to AFTER Memorial Day as opposed to the week before? Last year was the first time this occurred. Is it due to adding in the February break? Why was the decision made to add in an additionalweek ling break into the school year?
Does it include early release days?

October 15th is important for college applications. Having fall break makes it harder for seniors, parents, and counselors

Do the hours include the monthly staff meetings after work? Teachers are spending way too many hours outside of contract hours with no compensation.

The February break is way too long. The three day weekend is much more appropriate. I also believe the one done before Memorial Day was more efficient. Summer is short enough.

Can we go back to a 3 day Oct & Feb break & teachers report to school in August. It's getting further & further into July every year. In addition, 4/5 day weekends mean 3&4 day weeks which is also a treat. For instructional purposes a full wk off is challenging, too much learning loss w/ 9 days out.

Please consider starting school at end of August like Charlotte, NC public schools

Why not try to get out by Memorial Day. Start on first Monday of Aug and get out Friday before Memorial Day.

With a break in October, we don't have a full month of school without a break from October to March!! It's crazy that our kids can't be in school for a whole month without a break.

Quiero opinar acerca del segundo semestre que posibilidades hay que entraran la segunda semana de enero ? Muchos de nuestros hijos salen del pais y no pueden regresar la primera semana por los vuelos que son muy ocupados.

Why can't we have early release days?

I would love to see Veteran Day observed in honor of our veterans.

I love the option B that doesn't have a full week in February for Winter break. A full week is NOT needed right after the holiday break.

Why do we have to have work the Mondays of our fall and winter break? We can't add the teacher work days to March?

Thank you all for your hardwork and dedication to the success of our students.

Are there still pre-planning days in July? How many? Is the Monday after New Years a post/pre planning day?

Please adjust the calendar so teachers do not have to start in July. Phase into a calendar year similar to surrounding states.

Can October/Fall break be moved back one week?

The students don't do anything after Memorial Day - there is no reason to go after Memorial Day

The amount of student testing is absolutely insane! What has all of this testing done to make dekalb a better school district or our students more successful? It has made both the students and teachers over the top stressed out. Stop the insanity!!!

Give the teachers the whole week off just like the students. I'm not a teacher but can tell it will absolutely WRECK their break to have a virtual workday. For crying out loud! Teachers have it rough, why would you alienate them more? They need the full week for the break!!!!

I do not think we need an independent learning day. It basically a day off and no student or parent is going to be doing any learning. And the students should go back to school Jan 5th 2026, not Jan 6th. The post and pre planning day can happen. JAN 2ND NOT JAN 5TH.

Both presented options are very similar. Not sure why we are voting on two or three days when round one was discussing so many more options. I was hoping for a later start in August and then reduce the number of days for the breaks in October and February.

To keep both virtual days for students but have them on a Monday or Friday so that it doesn't interrupt the flow of the week.

Consider incorporating more independent learning days or virtual learning days: one in First Tuesday in

each of the following months: September, November, March, and May.

Is it necessary for Fall break at all!!! That could be a school week instead of students having that week in October off and then the week in November for Thanksgiving.

I prefer a later first start for August like mid august..what was the point in asking those questions if the options only to start 2 days later?

Can we look into an option where the fall break is a long weekend and the winter break is a full week? Behavior tends to spike in March because of the lack of breaks during that span of time.

Does schools have a set amount of days that the students need to be in school? I'm asking because I just think the kids should get out for the year towards the middle of May.

Why can't the last day of the school year, be before Memorial Day like it used to be? That just doesn't make sense to end after Memorial Day, especially when it would align with other districts.

Neither option A or B are good. School should start in mid to late August.

Cancel the Fall break to make the winter break one week longer or Cancel the February break to start the summer break one week earlier.

This does not seem representative of the majority of parental feedback. The options are similar to the last two school years, except for the option with two fewer days in February. It's extremely disappointing that parents are being ignored and our feedback is disregarded. Makes this effort futile.

The lengthy breaks occur so often are so hard for the students. Especially in the second semester. They just get back from the holidays and then there is a week in February and then a week again in early April and then it's basically testing time. It is hard for them to get reacclimated to school

School should end before Memorial Day. School should start on a Monday. We don't need Feb break - school starts in August, the a week off in Oct, week off Nov, 2+ weeks off Dec, week off Feb, week off April! Virtual learning is not school - it's just homework. should not count as instructional days

Parents DO NOT want a week off in October. We want a later summer start. Why start on a Wed.? Start the following Monday.

These two calendars varied very little (two days) from each other and was not much of a selection. I am disappointed the committee did not give differing choices like starting the school a week later or ending the school a week earlier by not having so many days in the fall and winter break.

I would love for either the October or February break to be moved to a week that is not associated with a holiday. We want to show our kids the world, but everything is extremely crowded and expensive holidays weeks. Other weeks would make more/better opportunities possible.

The week long options for breaks are terrible for working parents. Having so many weeks off is really hard. Please consider shortening all of them! No need for week long breaks!!! And more summer is better for kids - the expectations and support for summer break is better.

In these questionable times, it seems very dangerous for students and staff (full staff) to be in the building on election days.

Where is the option to extend the school year at the end into June then go back mid August? This is a better match with the realities of changing weather patterns and matches up with other states that go back in late August- September. Still gets to same day count

Please allow the students to finish the school year before Memorial Day holiday. It is cheaper to travel before that holiday before other states release their students for the summer

Please add testing schedules to the calendar so we can prepare long term appointments around that time!!!

Why do we continue to start school so early in August when most of the country's students are able to enjoy the summer when camps and pools are open. At least mid August would be better. Teachers are back at school at the end of July for preplanning. Additional virtual days using technology.

Election day in November should be virtual for teachers.
I would prefer to have the full week. For those of us who like to travel it is inconvenient.
I want a full week off in October but dont need a full week in February and I dont want to have the end of school year go past memorial day.
Why not get rid of the fall break and the second break to give educators and students a longer summer break. All the breaks do is stop forward momentum. Also, can we have true teachers workdays before each marking period and have half days for final exam days for high school students.
Why is DCSD requiring that teachers work (virtually) on Federal Holidays (October 12) Columbus Day.
I'm glad both options have school ending before Memorial Day. Having students go back for 3 days after Memorial Day was a colossal waste of time and resources.
Please align the calendar more with neighboring counties, such as Gwinnett! Our breaks have not been the same as theirs and I have to figure out childcare for my kid on those days because they are marked as critical days on our calendar!
School year is starting too early. Phase into a calendar year that matches northern and surrounding states.
I don't understand why you all keep pushing the last day of school back it makes summer less , after Memorial Day do not make sense, they use to get out before Memorial Day , pools open on the 24th, they don't take field trips anymore ???
I prefer the calendar that we currently have, in which we come back after Memorial Day. This way we get to keep the week long breaks. I strongly dislike coming back to work for pre-planning the last week of July. It cuts into the summer, especially for those who teach summer school.
It would be nice to align with surrounding districts if possible.
I think more independent learner days should occur. Why not have more than 1 per year? What about 2 per semester? It can help with teacher burnout if they have more workdays. This worked during the pandemic when students stayed home on Wednesdays for independent learning.
When school is closed on the virtual days-drivers who have children have to be at home to help them with their virtual assignments. Why do we expect them to attend staff development training? This really needs to be considered.
1) Is it possible to do a 4 day week with Fridays or Mondays off? 2) give each student 5 mental health days a year.
I didn't see Spring Break on either calendar.
keep the calendar the way it is please.
My child does not have the option to participate in independent learning days. I am a single parent and he must go to daycare on the days school is not in.
These Kids needs year round school. DeKalb had year round schools for elementary once and we need it back.
Why do we have a week-long fall break when we have a week-long Thanksgiving break the next month? Extended breaks like these only hurt our students who get off of their sleep school schedule and then are pretty much, nonfunctioning for the first week we return.
Is there way to push the first day of school to the 2nd week of August and still get out between the dates of May 22-27? There has to be a way to find days throughout the calendar that could even work as 2-hour release days or even half-day of school days. Burnout of teachers is real!
Please do not make kids go back to school after Memorial Day
The fall and winter breaks which are a whole week gives students and parents time to relieve stress. It's easier to plan with after care programs. It's more expensive paying day by day. Thus that half week or 2 days with Option B is not ideal. Thank you.

Please give 12-month employees more days off like other districts.
These weekly breaks create a coverage gap that working parents have to fill, often at significant cost or stress. Many families struggle to find childcare options during these breaks. These families may not have flexible work. Please consider eliminating these weeklong breaks.
One week breaks beyond Thanksgiving and Spring Break are too disruptive to learning and for Varsity sports. Please stop these arbitrary one week breaks.
No virtual work days for teachers.
Have we considered a four day work week SY calendar with extended school hours as an option?
These long breaks make it difficult for the student and the teachers to acclimate back into the classroom. Also school needs to also consider we have 1-2 snow days a year which also then contribute to the kids being out of school. Also going back to school after memorial day is just ridiculous.
Having the fall and Feb. breaks extended on the calendar over the past 2 years has been greatly welcomed and appreciated. With teacher/staff burnout continuously rising, this has afforded us all an opportunity to reset and refresh which is needed. Continuing calendar (A) would help your employees.
Is there no spring break?
Consider including more professional development days so that the teachers can engage in more opportunities to learn.
Thank goodness both options are releasing students BEFORE Memorial Day. Previously the days after Memorial Day will ill-attended.
Can we go back to a 3 day Oct and Feb break and teachers report to school in August.
The options showed the dates students return, it would be helpful to also have exact dates that staff would return for the first day of school to be clear and not make assumptions.
Option A - The October FTE count date is likely the first day of the 2nd 9-weeks. This is likely to CAUSE funding problems at Elizabeth Andrews HS and other schools that may not schedule their 9-weeks in advance. -- James Rauch (System Analyst II)
School should start later in August
It appears there is no longer spring break?
School should start back after Labor Day
With the heat intensity why don't we look at delaying school till the second week of August and push the end of school till the Last week of May.
I suggest removing the teacher's virtual workday from the calendar. Allow teachers to have that day completely off.
I would recommend the February break go back to a three day weekend not three or five days off so the children are done before Memorial Day
Option A is the best choice, offering the highest level of consistency for our students and teachers.
Virtual Teacher work days are non productive for many.
School needs to begin a week later in August to accommodate summer camp.
School should end prior to Memorial Day.
Why was the February break changed from the week of President's Day for the 2027-2028 school year?
If we use plan B, could we extend school by 2 days and still get the week off in February? I love starting school on Wednesday instead of Monday.
Why is there a virtual day when we're on break, that's why it's called a break (we shouldn't do work).
I would prefer more week long breaks

Please shorten the October break.
Why wasn't Spring Break included in the calendar?
I am trying to figure out why the February break was change to the week before President's day during the 2027-2028 school year? They have been out for the week of President's Day for a while now. I'm scheduling for our vacations in advance and this change is a shock! Thank you for consideration.
I really really appreciate that both calendar options have us getting out of school before Memorial Day. That was torture last year!
Can we have multiple independent learning days?
I don't see a major difference in the calendar other than only 2 days. I believe there should be more educational days during the school year and less breaks not just a two day difference.
Can the calendar be pushed back a week or a month, after Labor Day? What happened to half-days for final exams and professional learning days, especially after each nine-week period has ended? This will give teachers time to finalize grades, review student data, and plan with content/team.
No work should be done on election day to make it easy for teachers to vote.
Please do a study of where staff resides. The Dekalb Fall October break does not coincide with the Fulton county proposed calendar.
Go with Option A!
The calendar options should be separate for each school year.
It would be helpful to align our fall break with the other counties and I have a child in Fulton who has fall break in September.
I would love to see a shorter break in October as well.
I liked the older schedule, where we started on a Monday, had a Friday/Monday break in October and February, and ended before Memorial Day.
I would like to see fewer days off in October.
Week long breaks are unnecessary in October and February. It disrupts the learning momentum. It also takes the students about three days to get back into the routine. These things result in learning loss. It also takes time away that we had before to get all of the standards taught before Milestone.
It would be great if Dekalb could have the same breaks as the surrounding metro area counties.
How can the students go back to getting out before Memorial Day?
I do not believe we need a February break - it would be great if the only day off is the President's Day holiday. I also like the idea of starting school in August mid-week.
I don't like that the calendar now includes a week-long break in Oct. and an extended break in Feb. without the option to exclude these breaks. This was voted into the calendar once and we have not had a chance to decide if we would like to keep it. It has now become permanent.
Whats THE PERPOSE
I think our Fall Break should occur earlier in the semester. Some districts like Forsyth and Cobb schedule their breaks at the end of September to more evenly divide the time between the start of the year and T-giving break and it helps prevent teacher and student burnout.
Please try to match calendar with Gwinnett. Many Dekalb teachers live in Gwinnett and this causes daycare issues when calendars are different.
Spring break is not listed on calendar...by the end of the year (after APs) no one is doing anything in class, last 1-2 weeks are a total waste of kids time
The February break is incredibly frustrating as a parent, as it is during a time of year where there are often snow days. I would honestly like to see it cut out all together, but we certainly don't need an entire week.

Please consider switching October's teacher workday and November's PL day. PL earlier in the semester would be beneficial for all teachers, especially HS teachers on 4x4 block schedule (e.g., November is too late to make meaningful changes in HS Milestones courses testing in December). Nicole Durham

These proposed calendars are nearly identical, with only slight differences in the start date and February break. What happened to the idea of starting the school year later? If students begin during the first week of August, that means teachers will be required to report in late July — which is awf

I honestly don't like either option, though I prefer option B of the two. My main concern is that the options burden working parents with taking a lot of leave in February and October. I'd like to see shorter fall and winter breaks.

Why would you change this horrendous calendar and still give an entire week off in Oct? How has no one thought of starting sometime during the second week in August instead of making working parents struggle to cobble together child care for an entire random week in the middle of the school year?

School should start mid to late August to accommodate for academic camps that sometimes don't end until August.

I prefer November for the independent learner day so teachers can have easier access to voting.

I would prefer a shortened fall break and longer Feb break

I am both a parent and teacher of DCSD.

I would like to see more digital learning days on the calendar for students at least once per month and have a workday for teachers in the building while students are having their digital learning day at home, similar to Gwinnett County School District

It would be great if open house was planned in advance so that it can be on the calendar so parents can plan accordingly as far as work goes. Thanks

It would be very helpful to have off for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. It seems a reasonable request given the amount of time that is provided for alternate holidays. Thank you for your consideration.

As a parent these kids have to many off days from learning. Back when I was growing up and in school we never had these many days off from school it's just ridiculous to me I'm sorry but the students need to be in school more

If we are starting early August, we should always end the school year before Memorial Day.

If we are starting in early August, we should always end before Memorial Day.

Why don't we have an option to choose between March and February to take a break? And also choose between September and October to take a break?

The Wednesday start with a split February break is in no way an improvement. It is much harder to get childcare on weekends especially in the more rural areas in DeKalb.

Moving forward our school calendars should mimic the northern calendars to make it equitable for a better work home balance for young and established families.

The week for February seems excessive. Students and instructors don't really need a long break since we've had the long winter break. March is one of the longest months for instruction and one three day weekend would be appreciated. Another idea would be to bookend labor day with a Friday before.

Stop randomly making days of our well deserved breaks a work day of any type. Give us the week! I would love to start on a Wednesday and use the first 3 days to establish the class and dive into curriculum later but knowing DeKalb that won't happen so I voted option A. Virtual work days are stupid!

I found coming back to school after Memorial Day seemed to just be "play days" at school to hit the number of required days. I would favor adding those days elsewhere and not having the kids return to school after Memorial Day as there wasn't any learning going on.

Employees should be allotted Mental Wellness days that are not deducted from sick leave.

Please let the kids get out for summer before Memorial day

The options for the break in October appear to be the same on both calendars but I prefer the 5 day break which was explained to be option A.

Honest both options are terrible. You need to do a better job Dekalb - you are taking too many days off, keep these students learning , they have too many breaks.

The full week for Fall Break is egregious. The kids do not need a full week off in Oct, then a full week off in Nov, and then 2.5 weeks off in Dec/Jan. Why do the kids wait to come back on Tuesday, Jan 5th? Having that random Monday off is incredibly difficult for parents of small children.

Can we get a raise or are we getting a raise next school year?

What about Thanksgiving break? Does that remain a full week off moving forward?

Consider 4 day school weeks to save money for the district and support the mental health of staff and students. There are studies supporting 4 day school weeks and it could aid in teacher retention, too.

Can we create a consistent yearly schedule or a schedule similar to Henry County?

The last day of school school ALWAYS be BEFORE Memorial Day. It is horribly inconvenient to take place AFTER the holiday.

Possible Veterans Day off or virtual day. 1/2 day for conferences for students

Please push the start time of elementary school back to at least 7:45! 7:35 is so early!

More time to set up rooms in pre planning and no so many other things.

In 2027 the last day of school is listed after Memorial Day not before .....

In the future, I would prefer that all calendar options keep the last day of school and the post-planning day before the Memorial Day holiday.

Less October break

Asking to choose between two bad options isn't encouraging, but totally in character.

why do you find is ok to have independent learning days. The little kids do busy work or nothing and the parents become the teachers- NO ONE LEARNS ON THIS DAY!!!! You shouldn't be able to count it as a school day- no double dipping!!! Just stop having them!

Why is an Independent learning day required? It is pointless and affects parents more than anyone. Is there an option to not have one?

Please do not do a full week in February.

We should get out before memorial day. Going after memorial sucks because it's our finals day. We have a 3 day weekend then come back and immediately take finals then go on break. It's just stupid. We should be done before memorial day.

Calendar A helps with teacher burnout, Calendar B does not. We need those extended breaks to recoup, catch up, and reconnect with our families. I hope the board will consider this as it is essential to our mental health.

Please go back to ending the school year BEFORE Memorial Day like it used to be prior to Horton, like every other school in the state.

Too many days off

I don't like how the 2024-2025 isyear structured. summer break felt really short. I also think that the February break is unnecessary since we recently came back from a long break; or at least that's how i felt last year. october break only really needs to be a few days as well.

Please remove all remote learner days as this does not help the students learn. It is a burden on the students and families.

the week long breaks in Oct and Feb seem disruptive to learning with so many starts and long stops. not to mention, it is incredibly difficult for working parents to have so many weeks off--most companies do not provide this amount of time off so hard to cover.

As a parent, I am loving the extra time that students have off during the school year. These breaks are needed as high school schedules and classwork is strenuous.

Why 3 days only in October of 2026 for school employees?

The number of breaks we have is ridiculous. How are working parents supposed to take off all of this time?

These extra long breaks are unbelievably costly and difficult for working parents. School really need to help us figure out what to do. Also, independent learning days are even harder for us to manage than days off. We have to work. We aren't in a situation anymore where a parent is at home.

Would prefer a longer summer and less breaks throughout the year. Also - the independent learning days are RIDICULOUS!!!!

Going back after Memorial Day for a handful of days for elementary schools is a worst possible option. It's not a full week so parents have to take time off or find care for Friday after a Monday holiday. It's also not learning but mandatory attendance.

I don't like all these weeks off of school. It is difficult to find daycare or camps for my children. It is also difficult to get them back on school schedule with these long breaks. I don't like the full week in October. A log weekend is just fine. End school before Memorial day and start later.

The week long breaks are a big interruption. Is the October week long break necessary? Can it be reconsidered as the February one is? Thank you

Would it be possible to have school on thanksgiving week and the school year early (e.g., Thanksgiving break on Thursday and Friday and end school year before the Memorial Day weekend? As a working parent, it's tough to have one week off in October/November and then two weeks off in December.

These start dates are still way too early considering the ending date from this year. Having the calendars end on the same day was a good trick to get a different answer than the one you got last time (we always get to "select" a calendar that is unsatisfactory). Longer summers equal real breaks.

As a household with 2 working parents having a week off in the majority of months in school is very hard to navigate

If there was any way to avoid having the kids go back after Memorial Day, I think many of us would be in favor of that. I would prefer keeping school starting on a Monday and shortening February break if it meant they got out the week before.

It is extremely hard for working parents to cover a full week off for (each) fall break, February break, and spring break. The calendar with only 3 days of February break is a welcome relief for working parents.

Please give the students a longer summer and stop the completely unnecessary full week breaks in October and February.

Why is it necessary to have a 5 day break in October when there is another 5 day break for Thanksgiving only a month after. There are too many 5day breaks during the school calendar.

What about more Pre-planning days or less meeting? Teachers struggle every year trying to prepare classrooms and attend an abundance of meetings. Most give up time the week before to try and get ahead.

Start later in August and have less breaks throughout the semester instead (i.e. - shorter Fall Break and February Break....2 days vs. 5 days off for each.

Last day of school before Memorial Day.

I have a preference for calendar B because I find that I can help build excitement and a smother transition for my child when she starts mid week than her starting with a FULL week of school. It's a lot on us all.

October break should be a week earlier than either calendar proposes. Teachers in my school say that the

Independent Learner Day would be more useful closer to testing, so March is the preferred option.
I definitely appreciate getting out before memorial day. Always seemed so silly to go back to school for one or two days after that! And option B would honestly be fine as well. Both good choices!
Fall and spring breaks should occur 9 weeks into the semester, giving students and teachers a natural stopping point (rather than at week 10, like this school year, forcing all 9-week classes to start and then immediately pause)
12 month staff would like to have days off during the Fall Break as well as the entire week off during Thanksgiving. Or.... if not, be allowed to work from home as an option. Covid 19 proved the success of being able to work from home.
Can the independent learning day fall on a Friday or Monday?
We will not be participating in Independent Learning day. If school is closed, then we will consider it a day off for the kids as well. Additionally, Opt A & Opt B barely had a difference. It would be nice to have the kids in school more days/mo & have a longer summer rather than vacations every mo.
I appreciate that the last day of school has been moved back to end before Memorial Day. This was the most difficult change for our family and I'm glad the proposed options end school prior to the holiday.
Cut fall break back to 3 days
The break in October and February can be 3 days. There is no need for the whole week! Makes it hard on working parents. Please make sure the school year ends before Memorial Day whatever schedule you pick.
We should have 2 early release days per semester to accommodate for parent teacher conferences. Other districts have done this successfully. The conference cut off time for early release would be 5:30 pm. It will allow for more 1:1 conferences. Conferences can be offered virtually or in person.
I am a parent with a lot of flexibility in my work schedule and am really liking the week-long breaks in Oct and Feb. I'm not sure how it works out for parents that work more traditional hours. That is my only concern.
If the independent learner day ends up on election day, teachers MUST be given the opportunity to vote unrestricted. It is unacceptable to remove that right by practically restricting that from happening by requiring PD without some form of leave.
School needs to be finished before the Memorial day weekend every year for students and staff
Why are there no options for fewer fall and winter breaks (Oct and Feb) Don't need a full week in these months. It's stupid.
I like the weeklong breaks a lot and don't think two more days in the classroom (Feb break) will yield more results in students necessarily.
It would be nice to have the calendar decided before the start of the previous school year.
I love the Wednesday start!
Please build in more days for Independent Learning Days and early release days on parent teacher conference days or just in general for both.
How will this affect our 12-month employees? It is crucial to note that the calendar options do not specify the start date of the holiday, and this information is vital for proper planning.
Never extend the school year past memorial day. That was awful
Prefer having only long weekends for fall AND winter breaks and starting later. The fall break is 11 weeks after the start of school and only 5 weeks before a week at Thanksgiving. Why not do it at the end of September so it is more in the middle of that chunk of time?
The calendar needs to go back to the structure it had prior to last year. An entire week off in February when school just got back in January after 2 weeks off for holiday break is a bit much for those of us without extra PTO or WFH options. Also, the school year should end before Memorial Day.
Our family really values the calendar setup where there are the almost full week breaks throughout the year

allowing us to travel or enjoy our time together outside just summer weather but also allows our student to reset as needed during the instructional year.

Thank you for moving last day to before Memorial Day. NO learning happens in May and those days after were a waste! Also like the shortened Feb break. And, the first week of school is exhausting for all. Give teachers and students an "ease in" week. Like the Wednesday start!

I think 12 month employees should get the whole Thanksgiving and Christmas break off.

Why is there a need for the Monday during Fall Break to now be a PL day for teachers which started this school year?

Starting school the first week of August exposes students to extreme heat and ending with only a few post-Memorial Day days is inefficient. Shifting the calendar 2–3 weeks to start school later would improve instructional value and better align with seasonal conditions.

First preference would be to start school second week of August and fall break is one day of Columbus/Indigenous day or one day of Columbus/Indigenous day plus one day (tuesday) . Thank you for the opportunity to review. Also, remove those who voted for & came with previous Superintendent .

Please add more virtual workdays for teachers and staff. This is a great way to make Dekalb more attractive when recruiting teachers. Since we are paid less than neighboring districts, this would be a great benefit to add without costing the district more.

The full week February break provides more flexibility to make plans and schedule appointments during the break so that students don't have to miss instruction time.

The full week February break provides more flexibility to make plans and schedule appointments (such as pediatrician and dentist) so that students do not have to miss instructional time.

Please add option C- School starts first monday in August, 3 day in Feb and school ends on Friday before memorial day.

Why is there no longer a spring break

I would like to see the Fall break shortened to 3 days as well. Our students and faculty struggle with getting in and out of rhythm, resulting in missed learning days even though they are in the building.

There is no need for a week break in Feb or Oct. All that is necessary is at least a Monday or Friday off or virtual every 3 weeks. Students need a break at least every 3 weeks.

March should have at least 3 days for for the employees to have off because March is long month.

Make school start later in august

There is MINIMAL difference between either of these options. Why are we starting school so early in August. There is so much emphasis put on these kids having as little time as possible for summer break before school starts back up. Families are missing out on summertime with their children.

Please align spring break with the two major universities in Atlanta GSU and GT. Many parents work at these large employers and it would be great if the university spring break and the K12 spring break lined up.

I would really prefer not to have any long breaks in October or February and let the kids start school later and end school earlier so their summer break is longer.

I like that the students and teachers get many weeklong breaks and don't believe that two more days in class will make a huge difference, but I am not an educator! I prefer school would start mid August, but I also don't want to lose those week long breaks.

Please add an option where we are not getting out after Memorial Day. Fall Break could be the Thursday, Friday and Columbus Day instead of the entire Columbus Day week.

As a parent, We receive a lot of invitations to participate in calls/ training, and It's hard to understand which of those calls/training it is important to participate. We receive too many emails, it's confusing

Starting school during the first week of school is too early. Teachers should not have to come back in July

for preplanning. We need a later start day. Why is this not a choice?

First day of school should not be in the peak of summer. Remove the Fall Break and February break in lieu of a start date in late August.

The last week of school should not be so close to Memorial Day weekend. It should end the week before.

I would LOVE to start school on a Wednesday. I have done this in other counties. It provides teachers and students with a couple of days to get to know rules and procedures in all 3 levels (elementary, middle & high) and then teachers & students can hit the ground running on Monday.