

STEVE SMALLWOOD, DIRECTOR

Date: December 5, 2025  
To: Dr. Jesse Bacon  
From: Steve Smallwood  
Re: 2026-2027 School Calendar for BCPS

Dear Dr. Bacon,

The BCPS Calendar Committee convened on November 17, 2025, to develop a preliminary survey to solicit community feedback regarding the current calendar format. The results of this initial survey are attached for your review.

Following an analysis of the results, the Committee developed 4 distinct calendar options. These options were presented to the Calendar Committee on December 2nd. The Calendar Committee then removed the 4th option and would like to present 3 options for approval to be included in a subsequent community-wide survey. This voting survey will be distributed on December 3rd and will close on Friday, December 5th. Upon the conclusion of the voting period, we will review the findings and submit the community's preferred calendar to the Board of Education for official approval.

Pursuant to the process for school calendar adoption, the Board of Education is required to hold two (2) separate meetings: 1) a session for discussion of the Calendar Committee's results and presentation of the calendar recommendation, and 2) a subsequent session for the official adoption of the calendar. These meetings may be conducted during a regular or special session.

We intend to present the survey results to the Board during the regular meeting on Monday, December 15th. At that time, we will recommend that the Board officially adopt the 25-26 school calendar during their regular meeting scheduled for January 12th.

Respectfully,

*Steve Smallwood*

Steve Smallwood

DPP, Calendar Committee Chair



# 2026-2027 BCPS Calendar Survey

## Results

### TOTAL RESPONSES: 5,206

The sum of the subgroups below will be more than 5,206 because respondents can select multiple subgroup categories.

Parents/Guardians: 3,320

Students: 965

Community Members: 432

Certified Staff: 662

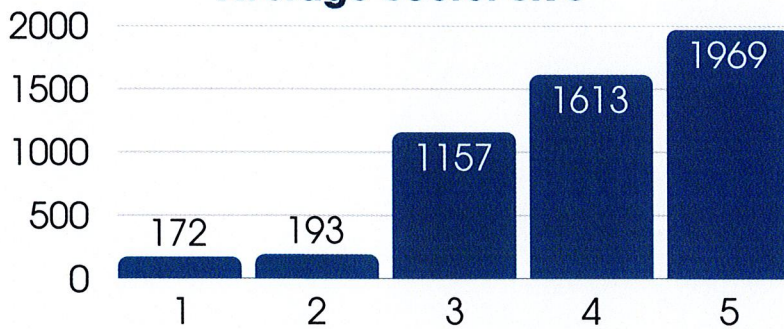
Classified Staff: 376

75.1% of respondents **ARE NOT** in favor of a start time switch where High School starts later and Elementary School starts earlier. 20.3 % ARE in support and 4.6% have no preference.

### CURRENT CALENDAR FEEDBACK

Satisfaction with the current BCPS calendar on a scale of 1 (Very Dissatisfied) to 5 (Very Satisfied).

**Average Score: 3.98**



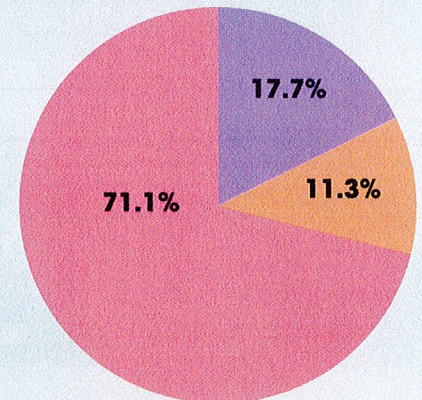
#### What respondents like most about the current calendar:

- **Breaks are highly valued:** Respondents overwhelmingly appreciate the number, spacing, and length of breaks, especially the full week for Fall and Spring break, and the two weeks for Christmas break.
- **Bullitt Days are beneficial:** Many like the inclusion of "Bullitt Days," particularly when they are strategically placed after long breaks to extend time off or for teacher preparation/planning.
- **Traditional and Predictable Schedule:** A significant number of responses favor the current calendar because it is traditional, familiar, consistent year-to-year, and easy for families to plan around.

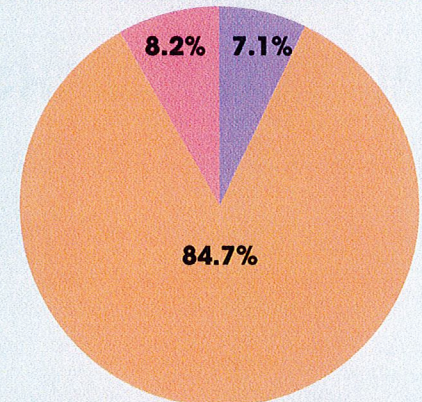
### SCHOOL START TIMES



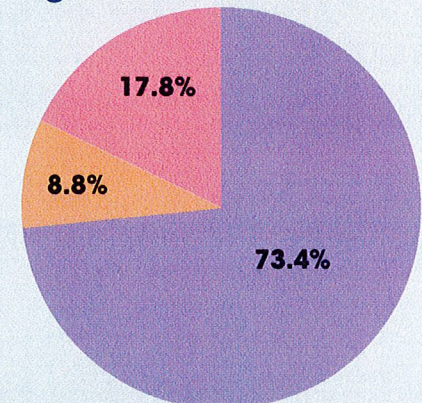
#### Elementary Preference



#### Middle School Preference



#### High School Preference





# CURRENT CALENDAR FEEDBACK CONTINUED

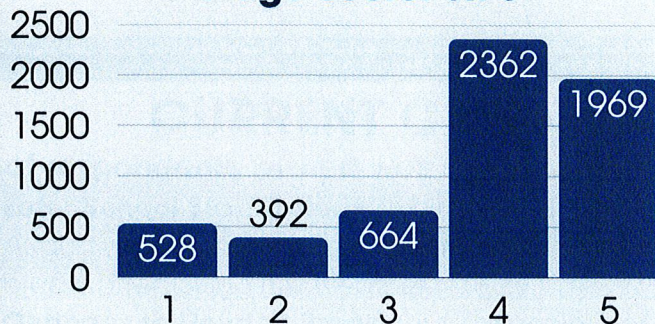
## What respondents wished was different about the calendar:

- **Later School Start Date:** A significant number of responses requested starting the school year later in August, with some suggesting after the Kentucky State Fair or even after Labor Day, to extend the summer break, often citing hot weather.
- **Changes to Holiday Breaks:** A full week off for Thanksgiving was a popular request, and there were also mentions of wanting longer Christmas, Fall, and Spring breaks. Conversely, some suggested shorter Fall breaks.
- **General Satisfaction/No Change:** Many responses indicated satisfaction with the current calendar or explicitly stated "Nothing" or "Leave it alone," suggesting a preference for the status quo.

## FUTURE CALENDAR CONSIDERATIONS

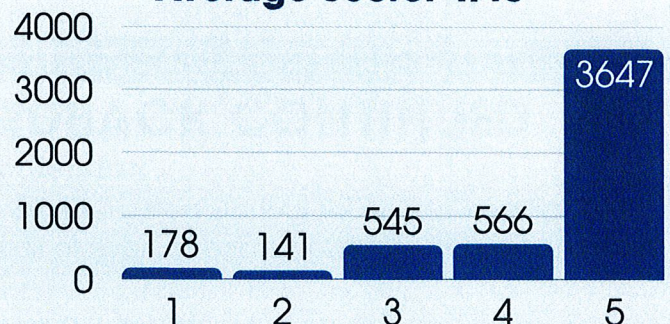
Importance of a full week of Fall Break on a scale of 1 (Not Important) to 5 (Very Important).

**Average Score: 3.78**



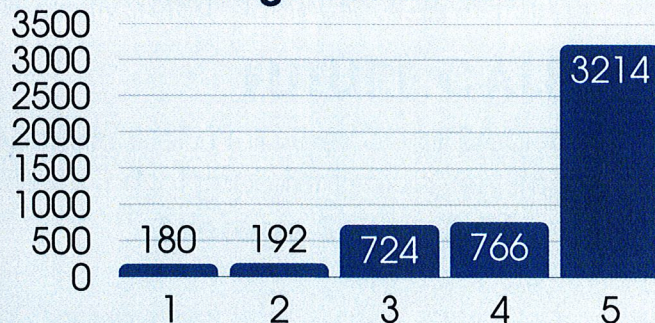
Importance of two weeks off at Christmas on a scale of 1 (Not Important) to 5 (Very Important).

**Average Score: 4.45**



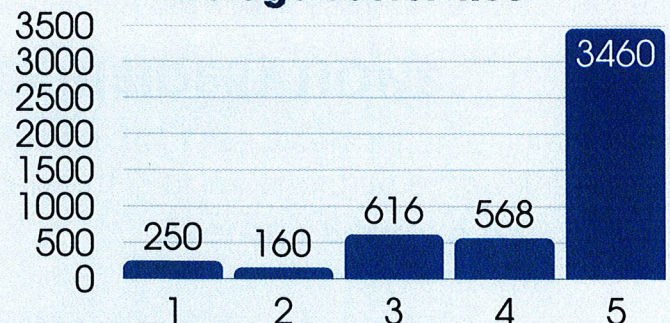
Importance of a full week of Spring Break on a scale of 1 (Not Important) to 5 (Very Important).

**Average Score: 4.31**



Importance of concluding the school year by the Friday of the week of Memorial Day.

**Average Score: 4.35**



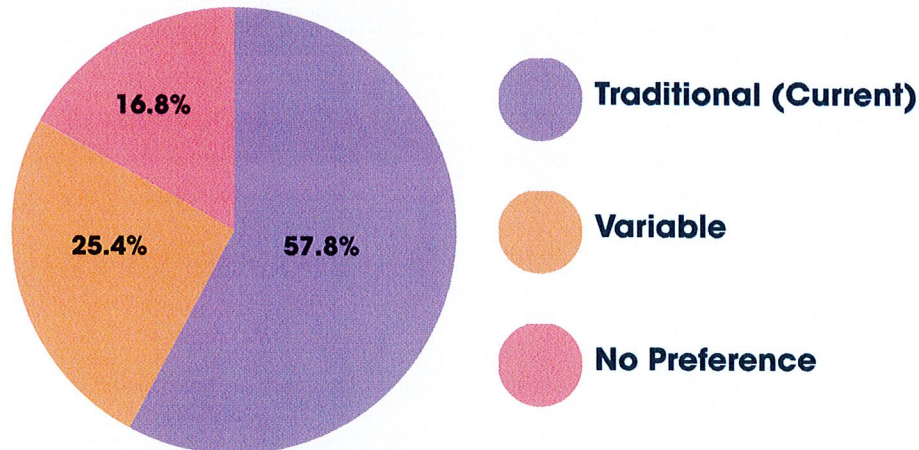
## Additional comments or suggestions regarding the BCPS calendar, with the understanding that the School Calendar Committee cannot consider comments/concerns regarding Bullitt Days and NTI days:

- **Concerns about School Closures for Early Voting:** A significant number of responses object to closing schools for an entire week for early voting, calling it "ridiculous" and "unnecessary". There is a strong consensus that the County Clerk should utilize alternative locations for voting.
- **Opposition to Schedule Changes (Start/End Times):** The majority of comments strongly oppose switching elementary school start times to earlier and high school start times to later.
- **Interest in Alternative Calendar Structures:** Some comments express interest in a "variable calendar" or "year-round school" with shorter summer breaks and longer breaks throughout the year. Many expressed a need for more detailed information or a mock calendar to understand the full impact.



# VARIABLE CALENDAR FEEDBACK

Based on respondents' understanding of a Traditional vs a Variable calendar, which structure is preferred?



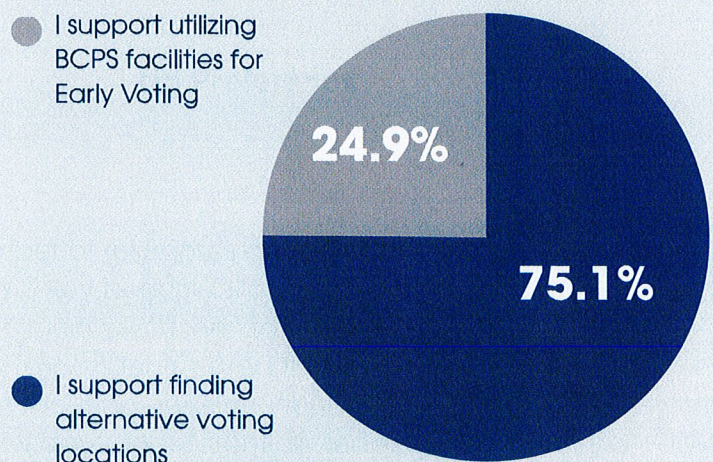
## Perceived benefits of a variable calendar:

- **Longer Summer/Later Start Date:** A significant number of responses cited a later school start date in August and a consequently longer summer break as a key benefit, allowing more family time and vacation flexibility, avoiding the hottest time of the year, and aligning with the State Fair.
- **Flexibility and Reduced Day Requirements:** Many respondents noted the benefit of the variable calendar not requiring a set number of school days, but rather focusing on instructional hours, which provides more flexibility for making up time lost due to weather/snow days and potentially leading to fewer school days overall.
- **Potential for Changes in Breaks:** Some saw benefits in a shorter or eliminated Fall Break, while others mentioned the possibility of more frequent or longer breaks, or better alignment with college schedules.

## Perceived drawbacks of a variable calendar:

- **Reduced/Eliminated Fall Break:** The most frequent drawback cited is the shortening or complete loss of the full week for Fall Break, which many families use for vacations and family time.
- **Late Start and End Dates:** Starting school later in August is a major concern, as it could mean the school year will end later, potentially extending into June.
- **Childcare:** There is fear that a variable calendar could lead to increased childcare issues and costs, especially during a longer summer break or with shorter, more frequent breaks.

## EARLY VOTING FEEDBACK



## Moving Forward: *Our Next Steps*

We are currently working on calendar options informed by the survey results. These options will be shared with the Calendar Committee for their input and feedback during our next meeting on December 2nd. Following this, another survey featuring various calendar choices will be sent out to the community for additional feedback on December 3rd. Finally, a recommendation for the 2026-2027 calendar will be presented to the Board for approval at the Regular Meeting on December 15th.

Our mission is to inspire and equip our students to succeed in life



# Bullitt County Public Schools

## 2026-2027 Calendar

### Option 1

This option is a TRADITIONAL calendar option with 170 Instructional Days. There are no "banked days," so every day missed MUST be made up. If this calendar option is selected AND the County Clerk chooses to use schools for early voting, we MUST close schools on 10/29, 10/30, 5/13, and 5/14. Those days will have to be made up.

- Non-School Day
- School Day
- Holiday (No School)
- Bullitt Day (No School)
- Professional Dev (No School)
- Opening & Closing for Staff (No School)

#### August

- 7 & 10: Bullitt Days
- 11: Opening Day for Staff
- 12: First Day for Students

#### September

- 7: Labor Day Holiday (No School)
- 8: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### October

- 5-9: Fall Break (No School)
- 12: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 21: End of Quarter 1

#### November

- 2 & 3: Professional Development (No School)
- 25 - 27: Thanksgiving Break (No School)

#### December

- 18: End of Quarter 2
- 21 - 31: Winter Break (No School)

#### January

- 1: Winter Break (No School)
- 4: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 18: MLK Holiday (No School)

#### February

- 15: PD Day (No School) (Make-up Day #1)

#### March

- 10: End of Quarter 3
- 15: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### April

- 5 - 9: Spring Break (No School)
- 12: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### May

- 7: Oaks Day (No School)
- 17: PD Day (No School)
- 18: Primary Election (No School)
- 26: Last Day for Students
- 27: Closing Day for Staff

#### JULY 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

#### AUGUST 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

#### SEPTEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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28	29	30		

#### OCTOBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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19	20	21	22	23
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#### NOVEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### DECEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### JANUARY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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25	26	27	28	29

#### FEBRUARY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
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22	23	24	25	26

#### MARCH 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
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#### APRIL 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2
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#### MAY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
3	4	5	6	7
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31				

#### JUNE 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
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28	29	30		



# Bullitt County Public Schools

## 2026-2027 Calendar

### Option 2

This option is a TRADITIONAL calendar option with 170 Instructional Days. There are no "banked days," so every day missed MUST be made up. If this calendar option is selected AND the County Clerk chooses to use schools for early voting, we MUST close schools on 5/13, and 5/14. Those days will have to be made up.

- Non-School Day
- School Day
- Holiday (No School)
- Bullitt Day (No School)
- Professional Dev (No School)
- Opening & Closing for Staff (No School)

#### August

- 7 & 10: Bullitt Days
- 11: Opening Day for Staff
- 12: First Day for Students

#### September

- 7: Labor Day Holiday (No School)
- 8: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### October

- 9: End of Quarter 1
- 26-30: Fall Break (No School)

#### November

- 2: Professional Development (No School)
- 3: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 25 - 27: Thanksgiving Break (No School)

#### December

- 18: End of Quarter 2
- 21 - 31: Winter Break (No School)

#### January

- 1: Winter Break (No School)
- 4: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 18: MLK Holiday (No School)

#### February

- 15: PD Day (No School) (Make-up Day #1)

#### March

- 9: End of Quarter 3
- 15: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### April

- 5 - 9: Spring Break (No School)
- 12: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### May

- 7: Oaks Day (No School)
- 17 & 18: PD Day (No School)
- 25: Last Day for Students
- 26: Closing Day for Staff

#### JULY 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
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#### AUGUST 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### SEPTEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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14	15	16	17	18
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28	29	30		

#### OCTOBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### NOVEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### DECEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### JANUARY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

#### FEBRUARY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
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15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

#### MARCH 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

#### APRIL 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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26	27	28	29	30

#### MAY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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31				

#### JUNE 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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# Bullitt County Public Schools

## 2026-2027 Calendar

### Option 3

This option is a VARIABLE calendar with 166 Instructional Days. There are 2 "banked days," meaning we could miss 2 days of school without having to make them up. If this calendar option is selected AND the County Clerk chooses to use schools for early voting, we MUST close schools on 5/13, and 5/14. Those days may have to be made up.

- Non-School Day
- School Day
- Holiday (No School)
- Bullitt Day (No School)
- Professional Dev (No School)
- Opening & Closing for Staff (No School)

#### August

- 17-18: Professional Development (No School)
- 19-24: Bullitt Days
- 25: Opening Day for Staff
- 26: First Day for Students

#### September

- 7: Labor Day Holiday (No School)
- 8: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### October

- 26-30: Fall Break (No School)
- 23: End of Quarter 1

#### November

- 2: Professional Development (No School)
- 3: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 25 - 27: Thanksgiving Break (No School)

#### December

- 21 - 31: Winter Break (No School)

#### January

- 1: Winter Break (No School)
- 4: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 18: MLK Holiday (No School)
- 20: End of Quarter 2

#### February

- 15: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### March

- 15: Bullitt Day (No School)
- 22: End of Quarter 3

#### April

- 5 - 9: Spring Break (No School)
- 12: Bullitt Day (No School)

#### May

- 7: Oaks Day (No School)
- 17: PD Day (No School)
- 18: Primary Election Day (No School)
- 31: Memorial Day Holiday (No School)

#### June

- 3: Last day for students
- 4: Closing Day for Staff

#### JULY 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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13	14	15	16	17
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#### AUGUST 2026

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#### SEPTEMBER 2026

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#### OCTOBER 2026

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#### NOVEMBER 2026

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#### DECEMBER 2026

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#### JANUARY 2027

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#### FEBRUARY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### MARCH 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### APRIL 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### MAY 2027

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
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#### JUNE 2027

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