

DAMASCUS CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

Planning Issue: On March 19, 2024, the Board of Education approved the boundary study scope to determine the service area for the new Crown High School and the Expansion of Damascus High School. The scope of the boundary study includes the following high schools: Winston Churchill, Clarksburg, Damascus, Gaithersburg, Richard Montgomery, Northwest, Poolesville, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley, Watkins Mill, and Thomas S. Wootton. The scope also includes the following middle schools: John T. Baker, Cabin John, Roberto W. Clemente, Forest Oak, Robert Frost, Gaithersburg, Herbert Hoover, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Kingsview, Lakelands Park, Montgomery Village, Neelsville, John Poole, Ridgeview Rocky Hill, Hallie Wells, and Julius West. No elementary schools are included in the boundary study.

As part of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP, the approved completion date for the new Crown High School is August 2027. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted the expenditures for the Damascus High School Major Capital Project to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP with a “to be determined” completion date. In the Recommended FY 27-32 CIP the proposed completion date for the Damascus HS replacement is August 2031. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/boundary-study/.

Due to the declining enrollment the recommendation is for a future elementary school boundary study.

SCHOOLS

Crown High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: The adopted CIP includes expenditures in the six-year period to open a new high school on the Crown Farm site to address overutilization in the mid-county region. Although an FY 2019 appropriation for planning was requested by the Board of Education for this new school, the County Council delayed the funds by one year. An FY 2020 appropriation was approved for planning to begin the architectural design for this project with a completion date of August 2025. As part of the FY 2021–2026 CIP, the County Council delayed the expenditures and completion date to August 2026. An FY 2023 appropriation was requested for construction cost increases and construction funds. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council, in the adopted FY 2023–2028 CIP, delayed this project one year, but approved the additional expenditures. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction funds. Due to the continued effects of Covid-19 pandemic on construction cost increases, the budget for this project was insufficient to complete the

construction scope as originally intended. Therefore, to move forward with the construction and remain on schedule, the Board of Education approved, as part of the FY 2025–2030 CIP, a Phase II for this project which will include the construction of the auditorium. The build out of the shell, the outside structure, of the auditorium is part of the Phase I construction. Funding to construct the fit-out of the auditorium, Phase II, will be considered in the next CIP budget cycle. An FY 2025 appropriation was approved for the balance of funding. This new high school is scheduled to be completed August 2027

Damascus High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: A Major Capital Project was approved to address various building systems and programmatic needs for this school. The Board of Education, in the requested FY 2021–2026 CIP, included expenditures in FY 2022 to continue the planning and design of this major capital project with a completion date of August 2025, the County Council delayed the expenditures by one-year. An FY 2023 appropriation was approved to begin the design of this Major Capital Project. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction funds. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted the expenditures for the Damascus High School Major Capital Project to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP with a “to be determined” completion date. The larger replacement facility with additional capacity to relieve other nearby schools is recommended for completion in August 2031.

John T. Baker Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Hallie Wells Middle School

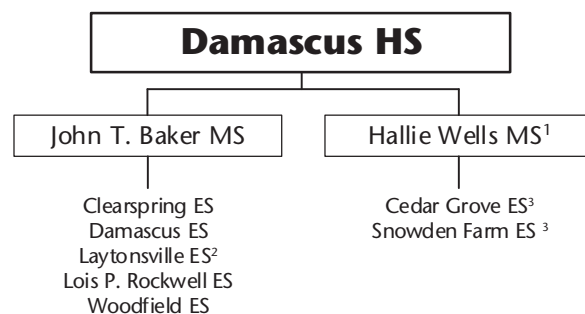
Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Damascus Elementary School

Capital Project: As part of the adopted FY 2023–2028 CIP, this school was approved for a feasibility study for a major

Damascus Cluster Articulation

2025–2026 School Year



¹ Wilson Wims ES articulates to Hallie Wells MS and then to Clarksburg HS.

² Most of Laytonsville ES articulates to Gaithersburg MS and Gaithersburg HS.

³ Portions of Cedar Grove ES and Snowden Farm ES also articulate to Clarksburg HS. See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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capital project.. The scope for the project will be identified based on the individual building system and programmatic and capacity needs for each school. An FY 2025 appropriation was approved to begin the planning and design for this project. However, based on the ranking with the new CIP prioritization criteria Damascus ES is not currently recommended in this CIP and a completion date for this project will be considered in a future CIP. The placeholder construction funds in FY 29 and FY30 will be reallocated to other projects.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Approved	August 2027
Damascus HS	Replacement	Recommended	August 2031

Approved—Project has an approved FY 2026 appropriation in the amended FY 2025– 2030 CIP for planning or construction funds.

Recommended—Project has a recommended FY 2027 appropriation in the FY 2027–2032 CIP for planning or construction.

Programmed—Project has expenditures programmed in a future year of the CIP for planning and/or construction funds.

Proposed—Project has facility planning funds approved for a feasibility study.

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Projected Enrollment and Space Availability

Effects of the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2027 Capital Budget and the FY 2027–2032 CIP

Schools			Prelim.	Projections							
			25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	2035	2040
Damascus HS		Program Capacity	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	2250	2250	2250
		Enrollment	1452	1477	1468	1458	1415	1420	1411	1425	1425
		Available Space	91	66	75	85	128	123	839	825	825
		Comments	See Text Planning for MCP						Maj. Cap. Project Complete		
Crown HS		Program Capacity			2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218
		Enrollment			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Available Space			2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218
		Comments	See Text		Opens						
John T. Baker MS		Program Capacity	741	741	741	741	741	741	741	741	741
		Enrollment	821	819	800	788	769	744	727	740	740
		Available Space	(80)	(78)	(59)	(47)	(28)	(3)	14	1	1
		Comments	See Text								
Hallie Wells MS		Program Capacity	969	969	969	969	969	969	969	969	969
		Enrollment	902	859	848	860	851	824	805	820	820
		Available Space	67	110	121	109	118	145	164	149	149
		Comments	See Text								
Cedar Grove ES		Program Capacity	419	419	419	419	419	419	419		
		Enrollment	313	297	284	279	278	269	268		
		Available Space	106	122	135	140	141	150	151		
		Comments									
Clearspring ES	CSR	Program Capacity	557	557	557	557	557	557	557		
		Enrollment	537	538	523	510	502	501	495		
		Available Space	20	19	34	47	55	56	62		
		Comments									
Damascus ES	CSR	Program Capacity	269	269	269	269	269	269	269		
		Enrollment	341	344	340	336	332	336	325		
		Available Space	(72)	(75)	(71)	(67)	(63)	(67)	(56)		
		Comments	See Text								
Lois P. Rockwell ES		Program Capacity	555	555	555	555	555	555	555		
		Enrollment	477	454	445	413	406	395	396		
		Available Space	78	101	110	142	149	160	159		
		Comments									
Snowden Farm ES		Program Capacity	763	763	763	763	763	763	763		
		Enrollment	541	497	466	451	442	435	439		
		Available Space	222	266	297	312	321	328	324		
		Comments									
Woodfield ES		Program Capacity	375	375	375	375	375	375	375		
		Enrollment	280	269	257	246	242	240	242		
		Available Space	95	106	118	129	133	135	133		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	94%	96%	95%	94%	92%	92%	63%	63%	63%
		HS Enrollment	1452	1477	1468	1458	1415	1420	1411	1425	1425
		MS Utilization	101%	98%	96%	96%	95%	92%	90%	91%	91%
		MS Enrollment	1723	1678	1648	1648	1620	1568	1532	1560	1560
		ES Utilization	85%	82%	79%	76%	75%	74%	74%		
		ES Enrollment	2489	2399	2315	2235	2202	2176	2165		

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Demographic Characteristics of Schools

Schools	2025-2026						2024-2025		
	Total Enrollment	Two or more races %	Black or Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ELD%**	Mobility Rate%***
Damascus HS	1452	7.6%	13.1%	11.4%	30.5%	37.2%	30.6%	7.8%	8.4%
John T. Baker MS	821	6.9%	13.0%	7.4%	36.2%	36.1%	37.1%	11.8%	7.3%
Hallie Wells MS	902	4.5%	22.3%	41.5%	13.1%	18.3%	18.5%	4.1%	8.4%
Cedar Grove ES	313	5.4%	14.4%	38.3%	19.8%	21.1%	27.0%	9.2%	17.0%
Clearspring ES	537	10.6%	15.1%	15.1%	30.2%	29.1%	42.3%	12.8%	7.8%
Damascus ES	341	4.7%	12.6%	6.7%	39.9%	35.8%	46.2%	23.6%	23.9%
Lois P. Rockwell ES	477	7.1%	16.1%	8.4%	29.8%	37.9%	33.0%	10.8%	11.1%
Snowden Farm ES	541	6.3%	22.0%	44.5%	12.9%	14.0%	20.8%	11.2%	20.6%
Woodfield ES	280	8.6%	15.0%	9.6%	30.4%	36.1%	32.2%	11.1%	12.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2489	7.3%	16.4%	21.4%	26.4%	28.2%	34.6%	13.4%	12.5%
Elementary County Total	69752	6.0%	21.5%	12.9%	36.3%	23.1%	42.7%	26.3%	14.6%

*Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2024–2025 school year.

**Percent of English Language Development students (ELD) during the 2024–2025 school year. High School students are served in regional ELD centers.

***Mobility Rate is the number of entries plus withdrawals during the 2024–2025 school year compared to total enrollment.

Notes: Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaskan Native categories total less than 1% and were therefore excluded from the table.

Due to federal and state guidelines, demographic characteristics of schools of less than or equal to 5 students per category are reported as 0%.

Program Capacity Table

(School Year 2025–2026)

Special Education Services																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
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OTHER	ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	AAC@7	AUT @6	BRIDGE @10	DHOH @7	SESES @10	EXTENSIONS @6	2e @13	PD @7	PEP@6	PEP @12	PEP @18	VISION (Elementary) @7																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
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Facility Characteristics of Schools 2025–2026

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized/ Maj. Cap. Proj.	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms*	County Programs
Damascus HS	1950	1978	235,986	32.66			
John T. Baker MS	1971		120,532	21.65	Yes	2	
Hallie Wells MS	2016		150,089	22.37			
Cedar Grove ES	1960	1987	57,037	10.1			
Clearspring ES	1988		77,535	10	Yes	2	
Damascus ES	1934	1980	53,239	9.4		6	
Lois P. Rockwell ES	1992		75,520	10.57			
Snowden Farm ES	2019		92,366	9.79			
Woodfield ES	1962	1985	53,212	10			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.