

SENECA VALLEY CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Seneca Valley Cluster includes the following land-use plans that will add both single-family and multi-family housing units in the future. It is anticipated that each of these plans will take 20–30 years to build-out, and the pace of construction will be market driven. A brief description of each plan is below.

The Germantown Plan for the Town Sector Zone was adopted in 2020. Housing types allowed in the recommended zoning are single family, duplexes, townhouses, and multi-family units. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/upcounty/germantown/germantown-plan-town-sector-zone/>

The Marc Rail Communities Plan was adopted in 2019. Seneca Valley, Northwest, Clarksburg, and Poolesville clusters serve the families within the plan area. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/upcounty/marc-rail-communities/>

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 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 2027–2032 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 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 includes the construction of the auditorium. This new high school is scheduled to be completed and open in August 2027.

Seneca Valley High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Roberto W. Clemente Middle School

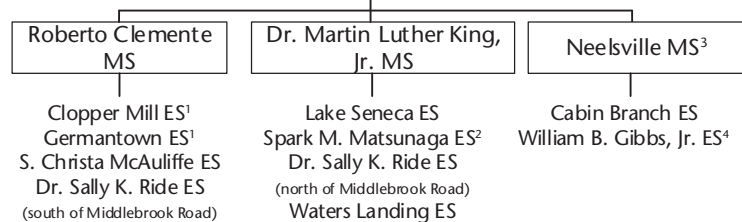
Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues

Seneca Valley Cluster Articulation 2025–2026 School Year

Seneca Valley HS



¹A portion of Clopper Mill ES and Germantown ES also articulate to Northwest HS.

²A portion of Spark M. Matsunaga ES also articulates to Kingsview MS and Northwest HS.

³South Lake ES and a portion of Stedwick ES also articulate to Neelsville MS and Watkins Mill HS.

⁴William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES also articulates to Rocky Hill MS and Clarksburg HS.

See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Approved	August 2027

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
Seneca Valley HS		Program Capacity	2519	2519	2519	2519	2519	2519	2519	2519	2519
		Enrollment	2374	2304	2320	2357	2364	2390	2372	2400	2400
		Available Space	145	215	199	162	155	129	147	119	119
		Comments	See Text								
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						
Roberto W. Clemente MS		Program Capacity	1141	1141	1141	1141	1141	1141	1141	1141	1141
		Enrollment	909	909	891	895	884	855	836	850	850
		Available Space	232	232	250	246	257	286	305	291	291
		Comments	See Text								
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. MS		Program Capacity	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	905
		Enrollment	773	736	735	756	751	725	707	0	0
		Available Space	132	169	170	149	154	180	198	905	905
		Comments	See Text								
Neelsville MS		Program Capacity	956	956	956	956	956	956	956	956	956
		Enrollment	759	756	750	751	748	722	705	750	750
		Available Space	197	200	206	205	208	234	251	206	206
		Comments	See Text								
Cabin Branch ES		Program Capacity	744	744	744	744	744	744	744		
		Enrollment	717	781	825	838	842	839	812		
		Available Space	27	(37)	(81)	(94)	(98)	(95)	(68)		
		Comments									
Germantown ES	CSR	Program Capacity	279	279	279	279	279	279	279		
		Enrollment	316	321	314	317	315	315	320		
		Available Space	(37)	(42)	(35)	(38)	(36)	(36)	(41)		
		Comments									
William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES	CSR	Program Capacity	664	664	664	664	664	664	664		
		Enrollment	568	573	564	559	549	548	547		
		Available Space	96	91	100	105	115	116	117		
		Comments									
Lake Seneca ES	CSR	Program Capacity	402	402	402	402	402	402	402		
		Enrollment	408	397	375	361	363	362	357		
		Available Space	(6)	5	27	41	39	40	45		
		Comments									
S. Christa McAuliffe ES	CSR	Program Capacity	691	691	691	691	691	691	691		
		Enrollment	509	495	487	480	481	461	450		
		Available Space	182	196	204	211	210	230	241		
		Comments									
Dr. Sally K. Ride ES	CSR	Program Capacity	509	509	509	509	509	509	509		
		Enrollment	408	384	378	369	371	366	372		
		Available Space	101	125	131	140	138	143	137		
		Comments									
Waters Landing ES	CSR	Program Capacity	703	703	703	703	703	703	703		
		Enrollment	745	789	796	784	782	773	764		
		Available Space	(42)	(86)	(93)	(81)	(79)	(70)	(61)		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	94%	91%	92%	94%	94%	95%	94%	95%	95%
		HS Enrollment	2374	2304	2320	2357	2364	2390	2372	2400	2400
		MS Utilization	80%	79%	78%	78%	78%	75%	73%	76%	76%
		MS Enrollment	1668	1665	1641	1646	1632	1577	1541	1600	1600
		ES Utilization	91%	91%	90%	88%	88%	87%	87%		
		ES Enrollment	2954	2959	2914	2870	2861	2825	2810		

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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%***
Seneca Valley HS	2374	4.3%	35.9%	11.0%	37.1%	11.5%	49.2%	14.5%	15.9%
Roberto W. Clemente MS	909	4.2%	32.0%	16.3%	38.2%	8.9%	55.0%	15.5%	13.7%
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. MS	773	3.8%	35.1%	12.5%	36.1%	12.3%	54.1%	17.2%	16.0%
Neelsville MS	759	4.6%	29.9%	13.7%	43.7%	7.8%	55.1%	26.4%	16.0%
Cabin Branch ES	717	6.6%	30.4%	39.6%	13.0%	9.8%	28.1%	12.4%	25.0%
Germantown ES	316	4.7%	36.1%	19.6%	26.6%	12.0%	52.2%	16.6%	22.4%
William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES	568	7.9%	30.8%	26.2%	19.7%	15.1%	40.1%	14.5%	23.5%
Lake Seneca ES	408	6.1%	38.0%	5.1%	44.6%	5.6%	61.3%	21.5%	30.8%
S. Christa McAuliffe ES	509	6.5%	35.2%	6.9%	43.4%	8.1%	55.0%	26.6%	27.0%
Dr. Sally K. Ride ES	408	4.7%	34.3%	11.8%	38.5%	10.5%	62.4%	24.1%	21.9%
Waters Landing ES	745	5.2%	36.9%	6.8%	38.7%	12.2%	56.3%	29.3%	19.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	3671	6.1%	34.2%	17.7%	31.0%	10.7%	48.8%	20.6%	18.0%
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)

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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
Seneca Valley HS	1974	2020	457,600	29.37			HSWC
Roberto W. Clemente MS	1992		148,246	19.87			
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. MS	1996		135,867	18.61			
Neelsville MS	1981	2024	162,684	29.19			
Cabin Branch ES	2023		95,327	9.61	Yes		
Germantown ES	1935	1978	57,668	7.75			
William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES	2009		88,042	10.75			
Lake Seneca ES	1985		58,770	9.35		7	
S. Christa McAuliffe ES	1987		102,111	10.6	Yes		
Dr. Sally K. Ride ES	1994		78,686	13.49		2	
Waters Landing ES	1988		101,352	10			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.