

WALT WHITMAN CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Westbard Sector Plan was adopted in 2016. This plan provides for an additional 135 townhouse, 487 multi-family mid-rise, and 516 multi-family high-rise units. It is anticipated the plan will take 20–30 years to build-out. The pace of construction will be market driven. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/planwestbard/>.

Planning Issue: On March 28, 2023, the Board of Education approved the boundary study scope to create the service area for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School. The scope of the boundary study includes the following high schools: Bethesda Chevy-Chase, Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, Walter Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Northwood, Wheaton, and Walt Whitman. The scope also includes the following middle schools: Argyle, Eastern, A. Mario Loiederman, Newport Mill, North Bethesda, Parkland, Thomas W. Pyle, Odessa Shannon, Silver Creek, Silver Spring International, Sligo, Takoma Park, Tilden, and Westland. 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.

for construction cost increases and the balance of construction funds. However, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council, in the adopted FY 2023–2028 CIP, delayed this project one year. The additional expenditures were approved, but the scheduled completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School was August 2026. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction cost increases. As part of the Board of Education’s approved FY 2025–2030 CIP, the construction schedule for the Northwood High School project was extended one year, with a completion date of August 2027.

Since Charles W. Woodward High School is the holding facility for Northwood High School, the completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027. As part of the FY 2025–2030 CIP the Board of Education approved Phase III for this project that includes the construction of the auditorium.

Thomas W. Pyle Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Burning Tree Elementary School

Planning Study: Facility planning was conducted in FY 25 to evaluate either an ADA renovation project or a major capital project. The recommendation as part of the FY 2027–FY 2032 CIP is to design and construct a replacement school to be complete in August 2031.

SCHOOLS

Walt Whitman High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Charles W. Woodward High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: To address the urgent space needs at Walter Johnson High School and the Downcounty Consortium high schools, an FY 2021 appropriation for construction was approved for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School. The Board of Education approved that Charles W. Woodward High School be used as a holding school for Northwood High School. An FY 2023 appropriation was requested

Walt Whitman Cluster Articulation

2025–2026 School Year

Walt Whitman HS

Thomas W. Pyle MS

Bannockburn ES
Bradley Hills ES
Burning Tree ES
Carderock Springs ES
Wood Acres ES

See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Charles W. Woodward HS	Reopening	Approved	August 2027
Burning Tree ES	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
Walt Whitman HS		Program Capacity	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218
		Enrollment	2005	1967	1962	1982	1952	1962	1951	2000	2000
		Available Space	213	251	256	236	266	256	267	218	218
		Comments	See Text								
Charles W. Woodward HS		Program Capacity			2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249
		Enrollment			0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Available Space			2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249
		Comments	See Text		Opens						
Thomas W. Pyle MS		Program Capacity	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488
		Enrollment	1233	1252	1280	1252	1238	1199	1172	1200	1200
		Available Space	255	236	208	236	250	289	316	288	288
		Comments	See Text								
Bannockburn ES		Program Capacity	388	388	388	388	388	388	388		
		Enrollment	402	401	376	390	387	373	381		
		Available Space	(14)	(13)	12	(2)	1	15	7		
		Comments									
Bradley Hills ES		Program Capacity	679	679	679	679	679	679	679		
		Enrollment	486	469	453	453	436	440	434		
		Available Space	193	210	226	226	243	239	245		
		Comments									
Burning Tree ES		Program Capacity	388	388	388	388	388	388	612		
		Enrollment	469	475	483	497	476	490	490		
		Available Space	(81)	(87)	(95)	(109)	(88)	(102)	122		
		Comments	See Text		Planning for MCP				Maj. Cap. Project Complete		
Carderock Springs ES		Program Capacity	429	429	429	429	429	429	429		
		Enrollment	349	342	339	343	347	327	334		
		Available Space	80	87	90	86	82	102	95		
		Comments									
Wood Acres ES		Program Capacity	749	749	749	749	749	749	749		
		Enrollment	587	587	597	601	594	588	578		
		Available Space	162	162	152	148	155	161	171		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	90%	89%	88%	89%	88%	88%	88%	90%	90%
		HS Enrollment	2005	1967	1962	1982	1952	1962	1951	2000	2000
		MS Utilization	83%	84%	86%	84%	83%	81%	79%	81%	81%
		MS Enrollment	1233	1252	1280	1252	1238	1199	1172	1200	1200
		ES Utilization	87%	86%	85%	87%	85%	84%	78%		
		ES Enrollment	2293	2274	2248	2284	2240	2218	2217		

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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%***
Walt Whitman HS	2005	8.9%	6.6%	15.7%	13.3%	55.4%	7.0%	2.5%	6.2%
Thomas W. Pyle MS	1233	8.7%	5.0%	16.9%	12.9%	56.4%	6.4%	5.1%	6.7%
Bannockburn ES	402	10.9%	4.7%	15.7%	9.0%	59.7%	4.0%	5.4%	6.3%
Bradley Hills ES	486	9.1%	2.9%	15.2%	10.5%	62.1%	2.1%	2.7%	5.0%
Burning Tree ES	469	7.5%	10.7%	21.5%	9.8%	50.3%	8.6%	10.9%	14.2%
Carderock Springs ES	349	13.5%	5.4%	14.3%	10.3%	56.4%	5.5%	7.7%	7.2%
Wood Acres ES	587	6.0%	6.6%	9.7%	12.4%	65.2%	7.2%	6.1%	5.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2293	8.9%	6.1%	15.0%	10.6%	59.2%	5.8%	6.7%	6.5%
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)

Schools	Special Education Services																			
	Grades Served	Capacity (HS @90% MS@85%)	Total Rooms	Support Rooms	Regular Secondary @25	Regular Elementary @23	CSR Grades 1–2 @18	Pre-K @20	Pre-K @40	HS @20	CSR KIND @18	KIND @22	ELD @15	METS @15	OTHER	Quad Cluster Based				
																ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	AAC@7
Walt Whitman HS	9-12	2218	105		95													3	2	1
Thomas W. Pyle MS	6-8	1488	73		68															
Bannockburn ES	K-5	388	20	3	14						3									
Bradley Hills ES	K-5	679	33	3	26						3	1								
Burning Tree ES	K-5	388	24	3	10						4					7				
Carderock Springs ES	K-5	429	24	3	15						3								3	
Wood Acres ES	K-5	749	37	3	26						4	1								

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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
Walt Whitman HS	1962	1992	312,270	30.7	Yes		
Thomas W. Pyle MS	1962	1993	209,464	14.3			
Bannockburn ES	1957	1988	54,234	8.3		2	
Bradley Hills ES	1951	1984	76,745	6.7	Yes		
Burning Tree ES	1958	1991	68,119	6.79	Yes	4	
Carderock Springs ES	1966	2010	75,351	9			
Wood Acres ES	1952	2002	96,358	4.78	Yes		

**See Appendix H for relocatable use.*