

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. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/crowndamascusboundarystudy/>

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 FY2023–2028 CIP, delayed this project one year, but approved the additional expenditures. An FY2024 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 FY2025–2030 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.

John T. Baker Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Hallie Wells Middle School

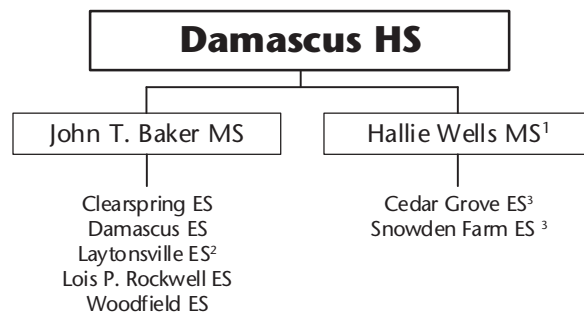
Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

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 capital project. The Key Facilities Indicators (KFI) were utilized to identify schools for possible major capital projects. 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. Due to fiscal constraints,

Damascus Cluster Articulation

2023–2024 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 U for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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the County Council shifted construction placeholder expenditures to the out-years of the adopted FY2025–2030 CIP. Once planning is complete, construction funds, along with a completion date, will be considered in a future CIP.

Woodfield Elementary School

Planning Study: This school was approved for a feasibility study for a major capital project. The Key Facilities Indicators (KFI) were utilized to identify schools for possible major capital projects. The scope for the project will be identified based on the individual building system and programmatic and capacity needs for each school. Once the feasibility study is complete, a recommendation regarding scope, timeline and funding will be considered in a future CIP.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Approved	August 2027
Damascus HS	Major Capital Project	Delayed	TBD
Damascus ES	Major Capital Project	Delayed	TBD

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

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 Adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP and Non-Capital Actions

Schools		Actual	Projections							
		23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	2033	2038
Damascus HS	Program Capacity	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543
	Enrollment	1398	1348	1440	1411	1436	1445	1455	1560	1560
	Available Space	145	195	103	132	107	98	88	(17)	(17)
	Comments	Planning for MCP See Text								
Crown HS	Program Capacity					2219	2219	2219	2219	2219
	Enrollment					0	0	0	0	0
	Available Space					2219	2219	2219	2219	2219
	Comments	See Text				Opens				
John T. Baker MS	Program Capacity	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	766
	Enrollment	842	845	845	855	867	876	880	830	830
	Available Space	(76)	(79)	(79)	(89)	(101)	(110)	(114)	(64)	(64)
	Comments	See Text								
Hallie Wells MS	Program Capacity	982	982	982	982	982	982	982	982	982
	Enrollment	943	945	951	968	986	994	999	1000	1000
	Available Space	39	37	31	14	(4)	(12)	(17)	(18)	(18)
	Comments	See Text								
Cedar Grove ES	Program Capacity	436	436	436	436	436	436	436		
	Enrollment	349	328	328	307	300	312	325		
	Available Space	87	108	108	129	136	124	111		
	Comments									
Clearspring ES	Program Capacity	536	536	536	536	536	536	536		
	Enrollment	539	548	571	587	589	585	593		
	Available Space	(3)	(12)	(35)	(51)	(53)	(49)	(57)		
	Comments									
Damascus ES	Program Capacity	334	334	334	334	334	334	334		
	Enrollment	346	326	333	333	356	355	359		
	Available Space	(12)	8	1	1	(22)	(21)	(25)		
	Comments		Planning for MCP							
Lois P. Rockwell ES	Program Capacity	575	575	575	575	575	575	575		
	Enrollment	526	524	527	525	532	539	539		
	Available Space	49	51	48	50	43	36	36		
	Comments									
Snowden Farm ES	Program Capacity	762	762	762	762	762	762	762		
	Enrollment	614	614	609	581	604	610	622		
	Available Space	148	148	153	181	158	152	140		
	Comments									
Woodfield ES	Program Capacity	375	375	375	375	375	375	375		
	Enrollment	318	326	355	359	353	355	356		
	Available Space	57	49	20	16	22	20	19		
	Comments									
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	91%	87%	93%	91%	93%	94%	94%	101%	101%
	HS Enrollment	1398	1348	1440	1411	1436	1445	1455	1560	1560
	MS Utilization	102%	102%	103%	104%	106%	107%	107%	105%	105%
	MS Enrollment	1785	1790	1796	1823	1853	1870	1879	1830	1830
	ES Utilization	89%	88%	90%	89%	91%	91%	93%		
ES Enrollment	2692	2666	2723	2692	2734	2756	2794			

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Facility Characteristics of Schools 2023–2024

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		4	
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.