

RICHARD MONTGOMERY CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The City of Rockville adopted the Rockville Pike Neighborhood Plan in March 2016. Additional residential units, mostly multi-family units, are allowed in the Rockville Pike corridor. This development would occur on either side of Rockville Pike, from the intersection at Veirs Mill Road at the north to Rollins Avenue in the south. Most of this area is in the Richard Montgomery Cluster. The plan will require the redevelopment of existing land uses and require significant roadway improvements. It is anticipated that the plan will take 20 to 30 years to build-out and the pace of construction will be market driven. In addition, there are two master plans/amendments that include portions of the cluster—The Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment, adopted in 2021 and The Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan, adopted in 2019. Additional information on these plans can be found at the following weblinks: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/shady-grove/shady-grove-minor-master-plan-amendment/> and <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/veirs-mill-corridor-plan/>.

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/crowndamascusbouandarystudy/>

SCHOOLS

Crown High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues

Capital Project: The approved 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.

Richard Montgomery High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Julius West Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Twinbrook 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

Richard Montgomery Cluster Articulation

2023–2024 School Year

Richard Montgomery HS

Julius West MS

Beall ES
College Gardens ES
Ritchie Park ES
Bayard Rustin ES
Twinbrook ES

See Appendix U for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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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, 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.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Approved	August 2027
Twinbrook ES	Major Capital Project	Approved	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	
Richard Montgomery HS	Program Capacity	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236
	Enrollment	2386	2427	2574	2578	2570	2586	2604	2760	2760	
	Available Space	(150)	(191)	(338)	(342)	(334)	(350)	(368)	(524)	(524)	
	Comments	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					
Julius West MS	Program Capacity	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	
	Enrollment	1306	1332	1340	1361	1386	1397	1404	1350	1350	
	Available Space	126	100	92	71	46	35	28	82	82	
	Comments	See Text									
Beall ES	Program Capacity	663	663	663	663	663	663	663			
	Enrollment	490	471	429	410	439	448	440			
	Available Space	173	192	234	253	224	215	223			
	Comments										
College Gardens ES	Program Capacity	719	719	719	719	719	719	719			
	Enrollment	506	512	507	498	514	530	529			
	Available Space	213	207	212	221	205	189	190			
	Comments										
Ritchie Park ES	Program Capacity	411	411	411	411	411	411	411			
	Enrollment	361	352	362	367	371	376	377			
	Available Space	50	59	49	44	40	35	34			
	Comments										
Bayard Rustin ES	Program Capacity	790	790	790	790	790	790	790			
	Enrollment	787	768	772	780	796	784	796			
	Available Space	3	22	18	10	(6)	6	(6)			
	Comments										
Twinbrook ES	Program Capacity	616	616	616	616	616	616	616			
	Enrollment	461	434	448	445	440	453	454			
	Available Space	155	182	168	171	176	163	162			
	Comments		Planning for MCP								
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	107%	109%	115%	115%	115%	116%	116%	123%	123%	
	HS Enrollment	2386	2427	2574	2578	2570	2586	2604	2760	2760	
	MS Utilization	91%	93%	94%	95%	97%	98%	98%	94%	94%	
	MS Enrollment	1306	1332	1340	1361	1386	1397	1404	1350	1350	
	ES Enrollment	2605	2537	2518	2500	2560	2591	2596			

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Demographic Characteristics of Schools

Schools	2023-2024								2022-2023
	Total Enrollment	Two or more races %	Black or Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ELD%**	Mobility Rate%***
Richard Montgomery HS	2386	5.7%	15.1%	24.0%	26.8%	27.9%	28.0%	12.5%	11.1%
Julius West MS	1306	6.0%	15.6%	16.9%	32.5%	28.5%	38.4%	16.8%	13.3%
Beall ES	490	9.2%	11.8%	12.0%	29.0%	37.8%	32.0%	14.3%	8.2%
College Gardens ES	506	7.3%	31.0%	17.2%	20.6%	23.9%	38.9%	11.5%	19.8%
Ritchie Park ES	361	5.8%	11.1%	21.1%	13.3%	47.9%	13.0%	6.1%	11.1%
Bayard Rustin ES	787	10.3%	10.9%	23.5%	31.0%	23.8%	37.0%	27.6%	16.5%
Twinbrook ES	461	4.6%	13.2%	9.3%	61.0%	11.9%	60.5%	40.3%	22.4%
Elementary Cluster Total	2605	7.9%	15.4%	17.3%	31.4%	27.7%	37.3%	21.2%	15.8%
Elementary County Total	72103	5.5%	21.4%	13.2%	36.1%	23.4%	40.3%	25.5%	17.5%

*Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2023–2024 school year.
 **Percent of English Language Development students (ELD) during the 2023–2024 school year. High School students are served in regional ELD centers.
 ***Mobility Rate is the number of entries plus withdrawals during the 2022–2023 school year compared to average daily 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 2023–2024)

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		County & Regional Based																						
																ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	AAC@7	AUT @6	BRIDGE @10	DHOH @7	SESES @10	EXTENSIONS @6	GT/LD @13	PD @7	PEP@6	PEP @12	PEP @18	VISION (Elementary) @7									
Richard Montgomery HS	9-12	2237	103		96																																			
Julius West MS	6-8	1432	70		65																																			
Beall ES	HS-5	663	33	3		22			1	1		3																												
College Gardens ES	HS-5	719	36	3		27				1		3																												
Ritchie Park ES	K-5	411	21	3		15						3																												
Bayard Rustin ES	K-5	790	38	3		28						5																												2
Twinbrook ES	HS-5	616	34	5		14	9		1	1	4																													

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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
Richard Montgomery HS	1942	2007	311,500	29.05		9	
Julius West MS	1961	1995	182,617	21.3			
Beall ES	1954	1991	79,477	8.4	Yes		
College Gardens ES	1967	2008	96,986	7.9	Yes		
Ritchie Park ES	1966	1997	58,500	9.2			
Bayard Rustin ES	2018		97,397	10.9			
Twinbrook ES	1952	1986	79,818	10.45			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.