

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster includes the adopted Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan that provides for up to 1,400 new, mostly multi-family residential units. Although the majority of the residential units can move forward at any time, build-out of all the residential units requires funding for the Purple Line to be secured. As with many sector plans in the county, build-out requires the redevelopment of many existing land uses in the area. The pace of construction will be market driven.

In May of 2017, the County Council approved the Bethesda Downtown Plan, which will provide for additional multi-family residential units in downtown Bethesda and require a larger percentage (15%) of affordable units in new developments.

Student enrollment at all the schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster has increased over the past few years and several addition projects opened at Bethesda, North Chevy Chase, Rosemary Hills, and Somerset elementary schools. Capacity also increased at Rock Creek Elementary School as part of the revitalization/expansion project. Silver Creek Middle School opened in September 2017, to address Grades 6–8 enrollment growth in the cluster and to provide space for the reassignment of Grade 6 students from Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools to the middle school level. To address the enrollment growth at the high school level, a classroom addition opened at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

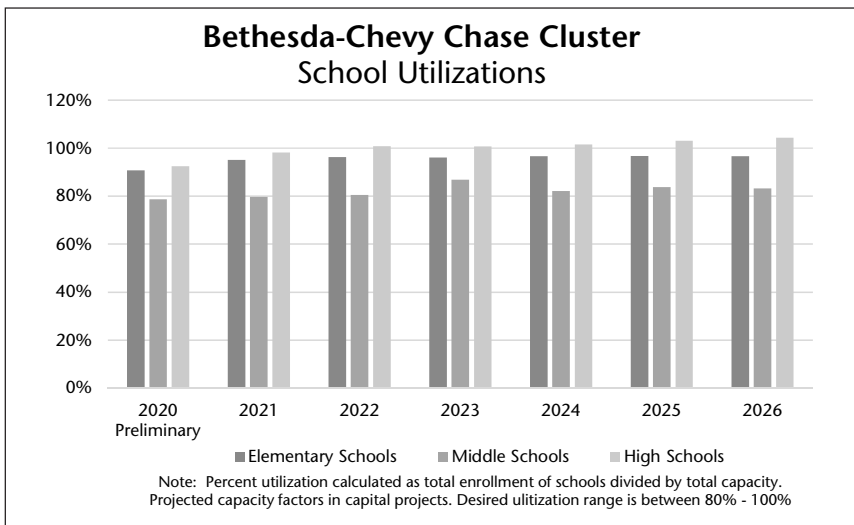
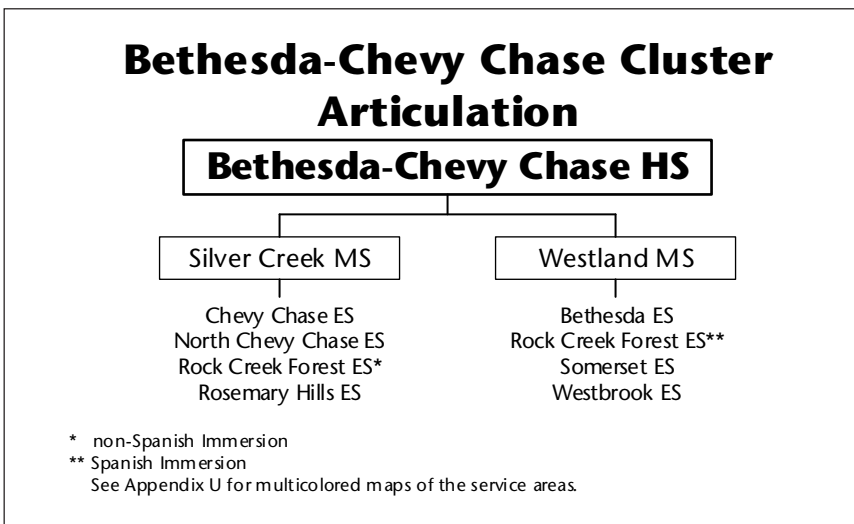
Planning Study: Because projections indicated that enrollment would exceed capacity by more than 92 seats at Bethesda, Rock Creek Forest, and Somerset elementary schools in a previous CIP, a study was approved to explore all possible solutions to add elementary capacity in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster in November 2017. In the Walter Johnson Cluster, a Site Selection Committee was held in spring 2018, to identify possible sites for a new elementary school. However, the projected space deficits, at the elementary school level in the Walter Johnson Cluster were not sufficient to recommend a new elementary school for the cluster at that time. Given that the adopted CIP in November 2018 included a capacity study for the elementary schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster, the Board of Education approved expanding the capacity study to explore possible solutions that would include the elementary schools in both the Bethesda-Chevy Chase and Walter Johnson clusters. The Board of Education also included a joint site selection process for the two clusters conducted in summer 2019.

Capital Project: As part of the FY 2021–2026 CIP, the Board of Education requested several projects to address space deficits at the elementary school level. These projects included:

- an addition at Bethesda Elementary School to open in September 2023
- an addition at Westbrook Elementary School to open in September 2020
- planning funds in the out-years of the CIP for a new Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster elementary school in the future.

However, the County Council adopted FY2021–2026 CIP included the following plans for the elementary school projects:

- Delayed the Bethesda Elementary School addition project to open in September 2025
- Removed all expenditures for the Westbrook Elementary School addition project
- Maintained the planning funds in the out-years of the CIP for the new Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster elementary school in the future.



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To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the superintendent recommends that all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project be removed and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with the completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is recommended for this project. This recommendation coincides with the recommendation to conduct a boundary study to include Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary schools to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study will be conducted in spring 2021 with Board of Education action for November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study recommendation is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/SomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff developed option, the superintendent recommended to conduct a boundary study to include Bethesda, Somerset and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study is recommended to occur in spring 2021 with Board of Education in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study recommendation is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/SomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>.

SCHOOLS

Bethesda Elementary School

Capital Project: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed capacity by 92 seats or more by the end of the six-year planning period. As part of the approved FY 2021–2026 CIP, an addition was approved for this school to be completed by September 2025, two years later than the Board of Education request. To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the superintendent has recommended that all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project be removed and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with the completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is recommended for planning to begin the architectural design for the project. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff developed option, is the superintendent recommended

to conduct a boundary study to include Bethesda, Somerset and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study is recommended to occur in spring 2021 with Board of Education in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study recommendation is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/SomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Clusters Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: Projections have indicated that enrollment will exceed capacity for some of the elementary schools in these two clusters. Planning funds for a new elementary school are approved in the out-years of the CIP. A completion date for this new elementary school will be considered in a future CIP. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

Chevy Chase Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

North Chevy Chase Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Rock Creek Forest Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Rosemary Hills Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Somerset Elementary School

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff developed option, the superintendent recommended to conduct a boundary study to include Bethesda, Somerset and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study is recommended to occur in spring 2021 with Board of Education in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study recommendation is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/SomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>.

Capital Project: Although the Board of Education requested to build out the classroom shell at Westbrook Elementary School to relieve space deficits a Somerset Elementary School, the County Council, as part of the approved FY 2021–2026 CIP removed all of the expenditures for the project. To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the superintendent recommended that all expenditures from

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the Bethesda Elementary School addition project be removed and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with the completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is recommended for planning to begin the architectural design for the project. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

Westbrook Elementary School

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff developed option, the superintendent recommended to conduct a boundary study to include Bethesda, Somerset and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study is recommended to occur in spring 2021 with Board of Education in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study recommendation is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/SomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>.

Capital Project: Although the Board of Education requested to build out the classroom shell at Westbrook Elementary School to relieve space deficits at Somerset Elementary School, the County Council, as part of the approved FY 2021–2026 CIP removed all of the expenditures for the project. To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the superintendent recommended that all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project be removed and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with the completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is recommended for planning to begin the architectural design for the project. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster ES	New School	Programmed	TBD
Westbrook ES	Build out of Classroom shell	Recommended	Sept 2023

*Approved—Project as an approved FY 2021 appropriation in the FY 2021–2026 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.

*Recommended—Project has a recommended FY 2022 appropriation in the Amended FY 2021–2026 CIP.

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Projected Enrollment and Space Availability

Effects of the Recommended FY 2022 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2021–2026 CIP

Schools		Prelim.	Projections								
		20–21	21–22	22–23	23–24	24–25	25–26	26–27	2030	2035	
Bethesda–Chevy Chase HS	Program Capacity	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457
	Enrollment	2272	2411	2478	2476	2495	2532	2563	2650	2675	
	Available Space	185	46	(21)	(19)	(38)	(75)	(106)	(193)	(218)	
	Comments										
Silver Creek MS	Program Capacity	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	
	Enrollment	840	842	854	971	878	895	889	825	900	
	Available Space	95	93	81	(36)	57	40	46	110	35	
	Comments										
Westland MS	Program Capacity	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	
	Enrollment	765	785	788	801	798	814	809	900	925	
	Available Space	340	320	317	304	307	291	296	205	180	
	Comments										
Bethesda ES Grades (K–5)	Program Capacity	560	560	560	560	560	560	560			
	Enrollment	611	644	662	732	743	746	741			
	Available Space	(51)	(84)	(102)	(172)	(183)	(186)	(181)			
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text									
Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity	473	473	473	473	473	473	473			
	Enrollment	442	445	442	451	465	469	472			
	Available Space	31	28	31	22	8	4	1			
	Comments										
North Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity	335	335	335	335	335	335	335			
	Enrollment	226	245	240	247	254	258	260			
	Available Space	109	90	95	88	81	77	75			
	Comments										
Rock Creek Forest ES	Program Capacity	684	684	684	684	684	684	684			
	Enrollment	741	769	769	771	759	767	759			
	Available Space	(57)	(85)	(85)	(87)	(75)	(83)	(75)			
	Comments										
Rosemary Hills ES Grades (pre-K–2) Paired With Chevy Chase ES North Chevy Chase ES	Program Capacity	628	628	628	628	628	628	628			
	Enrollment	525	550	582	565	561	554	554			
	Available Space	103	78	46	63	67	74	74			
	Comments										
Somerset ES	Program Capacity	515	515	515	515	515	515	515			
	Enrollment	516	555	558	548	556	550	546			
	Available Space	(1)	(40)	(43)	(33)	(41)	(35)	(31)			
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text									
Westbrook ES	Program Capacity	547	547	547	614	614	614	614			
	Enrollment	333	349	351	348	343	339	349			
	Available Space	214	198	196	266	271	275	265			
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text			Addition Complete						
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	92%	98%	101%	101%	102%	103%	104%	108%	109%	
	HS Enrollment	2272	2411	2478	2476	2495	2532	2563	2650	2675	
	MS Utilization	79%	80%	80%	87%	82%	84%	83%	85%	89%	
	MS Enrollment	1605	1627	1642	1772	1676	1709	1698	1725	1825	
	ES Enrollment	3394	3557	3604	3662	3681	3683	3681	3750	3820	

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Demographic Characteristics of Schools

Schools	2020–2021						2019–2020		
	Total Enrollment	Two or more races %	Black or Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ESOL%**	Mobility Rate%***
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	2,272	5.7%	14.7%	6.1%	17.6%	55.7%	10.8%	7.0%	7.7%
Silver Creek MS	840	5.4%	22.9%	6.3%	18.3%	47.1%	24.1%	8.9%	4.1%
Westland MS	765	8.1%	7.8%	8.2%	18.3%	56.9%	7.8%	5.8%	6.3%
Bethesda ES	611	8.7%	9.2%	17.5%	16.5%	48.1%	8.6%	17.4%	17.0%
Chevy Chase ES	442	7.2%	19.0%	9.0%	9.7%	55.0%	17.2%	7.9%	6.0%
North Chevy Chase ES	226	7.5%	19.9%	8.4%	13.7%	50.4%	18.9%	8.5%	7.7%
Rock Creek Forest ES	741	6.1%	19.3%	7.2%	35.1%	32.1%	26.1%	18.7%	10.0%
Rosemary Hills ES	525	7.4%	28.6%	5.3%	17.3%	41.1%	26.5%	16.3%	7.5%
Somerset ES	516	7.9%	8.5%	11.2%	13.4%	58.3%	7.7%	20.1%	10.8%
Westbrook ES	333	6.0%	3.0%	5.4%	14.7%	70.3%	0.0%	3.5%	5.3%
Elementary Cluster Total	3,394	7.3%	15.7%	9.5%	19.0%	48.3%	16.0%	14.8%	9.9%
Elementary County Total	72,658	5.8%	21.6%	13.9%	34.1%	24.2%	38.9%	25.9%	11.9%

*Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2019–2020 school year.

**Percent of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) during the 2019–2020 school year. High School students are served in regional ESOL centers.

***Mobility Rate is the number of entries plus withdrawals during the 2019–2020 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 2020-2021)

Schools	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	ESOL @15	METS @15	Special Education Services																								
															HSM @13	ELEM LAD @13	ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	AAC @7	AUT @6	BRIDGE @10	DHOH @7	SESS @10	EXTENSIONS @6	GT/LD @13	PD @7	PEP @6	PEP @12	PEP @18	VISION (Elementary) @7	OTHER						
																																		School Based	Cluster Based	Quad Cluster Based	County & Regional Based		
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	9-12	2457	110		108																																		
Silver Creek MS	6-8	935	46		44																																		2
Westland MS	6-8	1105	52		52																																		
Bethesda ES	K-5	560	29	3		20																																	
Chevy Chase ES	3-5	473	24	3		20																																	
North Chevy Chase ES	3-5	335	21	5		14																																	1
Rock Creek Forest ES	K-5	684	40	4		14	12	1			5																												
Rosemary Hills ES	PreK-2	628	36	5		17			1		7																												
Somerset ES	K-5	515	27	4		18					4																												
Westbrook ES	K-5	547	30	4		20					2																												

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Facility Characteristics of Schools 2020–2021

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms	County Programs
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	1934	2001	392,833	16.4			
Silver Creek MS	2017		174,743	13.3			
Westland MS	1951	1997	146,006	25.1			
Bethesda ES	1952	1999	75,421	8.42		6	
Chevy Chase ES	1936	2000	70,976	3.8			
North Chevy Chase ES	1953	1995	65,982	7.9			
Rock Creek Forest ES	1950	2015	98,140	8		2	
Rosemary Hills ES	1956	1988	86,548	6.1			
Somerset ES	1949	2005	80,122	3.7			
Westbrook ES	1939	1990	91,359	12.5	Yes		

