

# GAITHERSBURG CLUSTER

## CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

**Planning Issue:** Since 2007, elementary school enrollment in the Gaithersburg Cluster has increased by 820 students. Some of this growth is due to new housing planned in the Shady Grove Sector Plan. In addition, development of the Crown community, with over 2,000 residential units planned in the Rosemont Elementary School service area, is moving forward. Elementary school enrollment growth continues in the Gaithersburg Cluster and several schools exceed program capacities. In the 2014–2015 school year, a Gaithersburg Cluster Elementary School Capacity Study was conducted to determine whether additions to cluster schools could address the projected space deficits. Along with additions to existing schools, a new elementary school also was considered.

**Capital Project:** Based on the work of the site selection committee, the superintendent of schools approved and the Board of Education approved the opening of a new elementary school in the Gaithersburg Cluster on the Kelley Park site. The new school is scheduled to open in September 2022. An FY 2019 appropriation was approved to begin the architectural design and planning for Gaithersburg Elementary School #8. An FY 2021 appropriation was approved for construction funding. In order for this project to be completed on time, county and state funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

**Planning Study:** The opening of Gaithersburg Elementary School #8 was approved to open in September 2022. In accordance to Board of Education action, the boundary study was approved to create the service area for the school in spring 2020, earlier than typical boundary studies. The boundary study began in March 2020, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic community meetings were suspended. Continuation of the boundary study commenced in October 2020. The superintendent will release his recommendation in winter 2021 with Board of Education action scheduled for March 2021. The scope of the boundary study includes all of the elementary schools and the two middle schools in the Gaithersburg Cluster. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/gaithersburgcluster8boundarystudy.aspx>

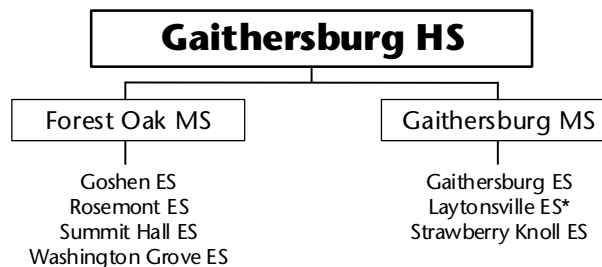
**Planning Study:** A capacity study was approved for the Watkins Mill Cluster to evaluate the space deficits in the elementary school cluster, as well as look to adjacent clusters to address overutilization issues. The capacity study will be conducted in spring 2021 after the Board of Education takes action on the Gaithersburg Elementary School boundaries.

## SCHOOLS

### Gaithersburg High School

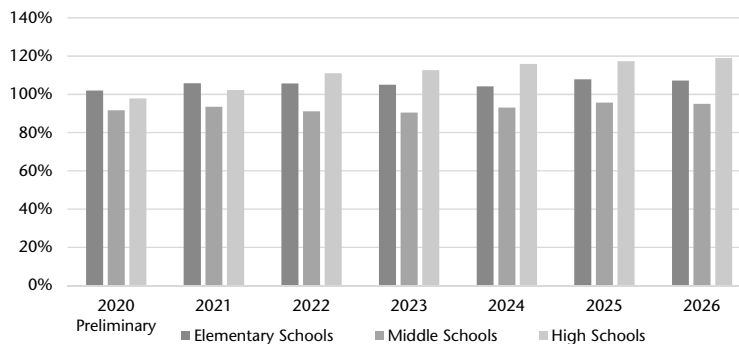
**Capital Project:** Projections indicate enrollment at Gaithersburg High School will exceed capacity by 200 seats or more by the end of the six-year planning period. Expenditures are programmed in the six-year period to open a new high school on the Crown Farm site to address overutilization in the 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 to begin in FY 2020. An FY 2020 appropriation was approved for planning to begin the architectural design for this project with a completion date of September 2025. However, as part of the FY 2021–2026 CIP, the County Council delayed the expenditures and completion date to September 2026. An appropriation for construction funding will be requested in the next full CIP. In order for this project to be completed on time, county and state funding must be provided at the levels recommended in this CIP.

### Gaithersburg Cluster Articulation



\* A portion of Laytonville ES also articulates to John T. Baker MS and then Damascus HS. See Appendix U for multicolored maps of the service areas.

### Gaithersburg Cluster School Utilizations



Note: Percent utilization calculated as total enrollment of schools divided by total capacity. Projected capacity factors in capital projects. Desired utilization range is between 80% - 100%

## GAITHERSBURG CLUSTER

### Gaithersburg Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

### Gaithersburg Elementary School #8

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

### Goshen Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

### Laytonville Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues

### Rosemont Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

### Strawberry Knoll Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

### Summit Hall Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

### Washington Grove Elementary School

**Planning Issue and Capital Project:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Approved	Sept. 2026
Gaithersburg ES #8	New School	Approved	Sept. 2022

\*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.

# GAITHERSBURG CLUSTER

## 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
Gaithersburg HS	Program Capacity	2412	2412	2412	2412	2412	2412	2412	2412	2412
	Enrollment	2360	2464	2678	2718	2796	2830	2869	2910	3000
	Available Space	52	(52)	(266)	(306)	(384)	(418)	(457)	(498)	(588)
	Comments									
Crown HS	Program Capacity							2700	2700	2700
	Enrollment							0	0	0
	Available Space							2700	2700	2700
	Comments							Opens		
Forest Oak MS	Program Capacity	955	955	955	955	955	955	955	955	955
	Enrollment	927	947	933	915	939	957	951	955	975
	Available Space	28	8	22	40	16	(2)	4	0	(20)
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Gaithersburg MS	Program Capacity	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009	1009
	Enrollment	874	889	857	861	888	921	915	940	975
	Available Space	135	120	152	148	121	88	94	69	34
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Gaithersburg ES	Program Capacity	737	737	737	737	737	737	737		
	Enrollment	798	806	780	736	698	709	703		
	Available Space	(61)	(69)	(43)	1	39	28	34		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Gaithersburg ES #8	Program Capacity			740	740	740	740	740		
	Enrollment			0	0	0	0	0		
	Available Space			740	740	740	740	740		
	Comments	Ping. for new school See Text		Opens						
Goshen ES	Program Capacity	594	594	594	594	594	594	594		
	Enrollment	503	515	513	520	524	544	562		
	Available Space	91	79	81	74	70	50	32		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Laytonsville ES	Program Capacity	464	464	464	464	464	464	464		
	Enrollment	369	386	398	412	404	393	380		
	Available Space	95	78	66	52	60	71	84		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Rosemont ES	Program Capacity	585	585	585	585	585	585	585		
	Enrollment	605	638	644	667	657	726	719		
	Available Space	(20)	(53)	(59)	(82)	(72)	(141)	(134)		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Strawberry Knoll ES	Program Capacity	459	459	459	459	459	459	459		
	Enrollment	598	635	624	610	611	606	603		
	Available Space	(139)	(176)	(165)	(151)	(152)	(147)	(144)		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Summit Hall ES	Program Capacity	457	457	457	457	457	457	457		
	Enrollment	691	697	710	708	727	740	731		
	Available Space	(234)	(240)	(253)	(251)	(270)	(283)	(274)		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Washington Grove ES	Program Capacity	613	613	613	613	613	613	613		
	Enrollment	421	458	462	452	453	498	493		
	Available Space	192	155	151	161	160	115	120		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	98%	102%	111%	113%	116%	117%	119%	121%	124%
	HS Enrollment	2360	2464	2678	2718	2796	2830	2869	2910	3000
	MS Utilization	92%	93%	91%	90%	93%	96%	95%	96%	99%
	MS Enrollment	1801	1836	1790	1776	1827	1878	1866	1895	1950
	ES Utilization	102%	106%	89%	88%	88%	91%	90%	102%	110%
	ES Enrollment	3985	4135	4131	4105	4074	4216	4191	4740	5150

# GAITHERSBURG CLUSTER

## 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%***
Gaithersburg HS	2,360	2.9%	21.2%	6.4%	57.8%	11.7%	42.5%	25.5%	19.9%
Forest Oak MS	927	2.9%	23.0%	6.6%	57.9%	9.4%	57.1%	20.9%	11.9%
Gaithersburg MS	874	6.8%	20.1%	6.5%	53.2%	13.3%	44.7%	21.3%	14.5%
Laytonsville ES	369	7.3%	18.2%	7.9%	29.0%	37.1%	15.1%	9.7%	8.4%
Gaithersburg ES	798	2.0%	13.2%	2.0%	79.7%	2.6%	85.0%	49.9%	22.3%
Goshen ES	503	3.8%	23.9%	12.1%	45.1%	15.1%	45.4%	23.1%	15.1%
Rosemont ES	605	6.3%	30.4%	8.9%	45.6%	7.8%	58.8%	39.4%	25.9%
Strawberry Knoll ES	598	6.0%	27.3%	10.9%	44.8%	10.9%	41.5%	23.5%	16.9%
Summit Hall ES	691	3.2%	17.7%	3.8%	73.4%	2.0%	79.8%	61.1%	17.8%
Washington Grove ES	421	6.2%	19.7%	5.9%	61.0%	6.7%	68.8%	50.0%	13.2%
<b>Elementary Cluster Total</b>	<b>3,985</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>57.2%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>60.2%</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>18.1%</b>
<b>Elementary County Total</b>	<b>72,658</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>25.9%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>

\*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	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	ESOL @15	METS @15	HSM @13	ELEM LAD @13	ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	County & Regional Based																		
																					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						
Gaithersburg HS	9-12	2412	122		95														3	5																			
Forest Oak MS	6-8	955	48		43															3																			
Gaithersburg MS	6-8	1009	52		44																					2	3												
Gaithersburg ES	PreK-5	737	44	6		11	14	1		10																	2												
Goshen ES	K-5	594	34	4		13	10			5					1			1																					
Laytonsville ES	K-5	464	27	4		15					4				1					3																			
Rosemont ES	PreK-5	585	36	4		8	12	1		6					1											4													
Strawberry Knoll ES	HS-5	459	32	4		2	10	1		1	6				1											3									1	1	2		
Summit Hall ES	HS-5	457	28	5			12	1	2	1	6				1																								
Washington Grove ES	HS-5	613	34	4		10	8		2	1	4				1																				1	1	2		

## GAITHERSBURG CLUSTER

**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
Gaithersburg HS	1951	2013	427,048	41.07	Yes		SBWC
Forest Oak MS	1999		132,259	41.2			LTL
Gaithersburg MS	1960	1988	157,694	22.82			LTL
Gaithersburg ES	1947	1983	94,468	9.22		11	SBHC
Goshen ES	1988		76,740	10.5		2	
Laytonsville ES	1951	1989	64,160	10.4			
Rosemont ES	1965	1995	88,764	8.9		4	LTL
Strawberry Knoll ES	1988		78,723	10.8	Yes	10	
Summit Hall ES	1971		68,059	10.2	Yes	16	SBHC
Washington Grove ES	1956	1984	86,266	10.7			LTL

