

# 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 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 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 August 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 in August 2018 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 in November 2017, to explore all possible solutions to add elementary capacity in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster. In the Walter Johnson Cluster, a Site Selection Committee held in spring 2018, identified 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

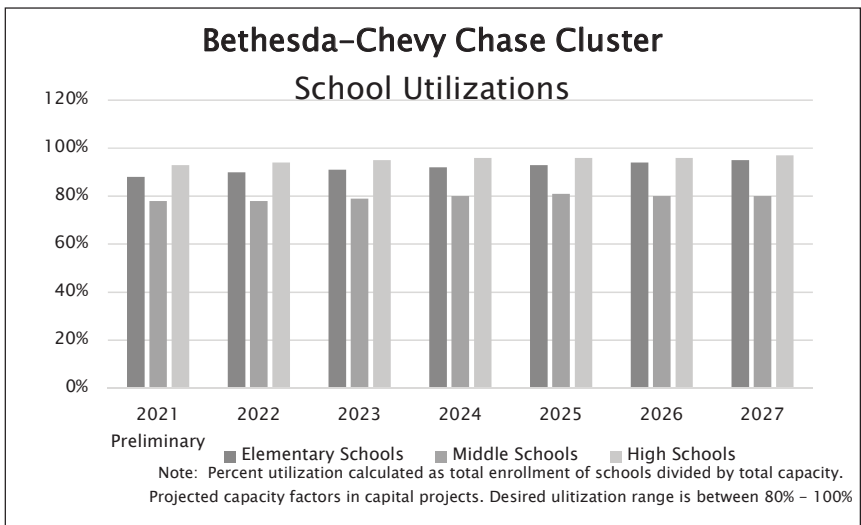
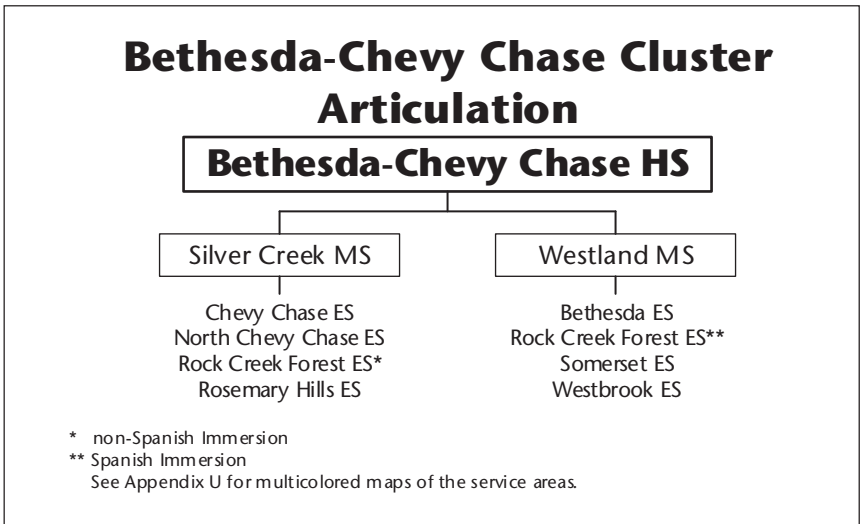
projects to address space deficits at the elementary school level. These projects included:

- An addition at Bethesda Elementary School to open in August 2023
- A classroom shell build-out at Westbrook Elementary School to open in August 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’s adopted FY2021–2026 CIP included the following plans for the elementary school projects:

- Delay the Bethesda Elementary School addition project to open in August 2025
- Remove all expenditures for the Westbrook Elementary School classroom shell build-out project
- Maintain the planning funds in the out-years of the CIP for the new Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster elementary school in the future.

To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, as part of the amended FY2021–2026 CIP,



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the Board of Education requested, and the County Council approved, removal of all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project and reallocated \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School classroom shell build-out project with a completion date of August 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation was approved for this project.

**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 a boundary study, that was conducted in spring 2021, to include Bethesda, Somerset and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The superintendent of schools released her recommendation in October 2021, as part of the FY 2023 Capital Budget and FY 2023–2028 Capital Improvements Program, with Board of Education action scheduled for November 18, 2021. Included in the CIP recommendation is to complete the classroom shell build-out for Westbrook Elementary School by August 2022. Information regarding this boundary study recommendation is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.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 adopted FY 2021–2026 CIP, an addition was approved for this school to be completed by August 2025, two years later than the Board of Education request. As part of the Amended FY 2021–2026 CIP, the Board of Education requested, and the County Council approved, the removal of all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School Addition project and reallocated \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School classroom shell build-out project to address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. An FY 2022 appropriation was approved for planning and construction funds for the project. An FY 2023 appropriation is recommended to complete the classroom shell build-out by August 2022. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until the additional capacity can be added.

**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 Board of Education approved a boundary study that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary schools to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study occurred in spring 2021. The superintendent of schools released

her recommendation in October 2021, as part of the FY 2023 Capital Budget and FY 2023–2028 Capital Improvements Program, with Board of Education action scheduled for November 18, 2021. Included in the CIP recommendation is to complete the classroom shell build-out for Westbrook Elementary School by August 2022. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>.

### Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Clusters Elementary School

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

**Capital Project:** Projections indicate 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.

### 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 Board of Education approved a boundary study that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study occurred in spring 2021. The superintendent of schools released her recommendation in October 2021, as part of the FY 2023 Capital Budget and FY 2023–2028 Capital Improvements Program, with Board of Education action scheduled for November 18, 2021. Included in the CIP recommendation is to complete the classroom shell build-out for Westbrook Elementary School by August 2022. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>.

**Capital Project:** To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the Board of Education, as part of the amended FY 2021–2026 CIP, requested, and the County Council approved, removal of all expenditures from the

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Bethesda Elementary School addition project and reallocated \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School Addition project. An FY 2022 appropriation was approved for planning and construction funds for the project. An FY 2023 appropriation is recommended to complete the shell build-out by August 2022. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added.

### 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 Board of Education approved a boundary study that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary schools to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study occurred in spring 2021. The superintendent of schools released her recommendation in October 2021, as part of the FY 2023 Capital Budget and FY 2023–2028 Capital Improvements Program, with Board of Education action scheduled for November 18, 2021. Included in the CIP recommendation is to complete the classroom shell build-out for Westbrook Elementary School by August 2022. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.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 Board of Education in the amended FY 2021–2026 CIP, requested, and the County Council approved, removal of all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School Addition project and reallocated \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School Addition project with a completion date of August 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation was approved for planning and construction funds for the project. An FY 2023 appropriation is recommended to complete the shell build-out by August 2022. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster ES	New School	Programmed	TBD
Westbrook ES	Classroom Shell Build-out	Approved	August 2022

\*Approved—Project has an approved FY 2022 appropriation in the Amended 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 2023 appropriation for planning or construction in the FY 2023–2028 CIP.

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## Projected Enrollment and Space Availability

Effects of the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2023 Capital Budget and FY 2023–2028 Capital Improvements Program

Schools		Prelim.	Projections							2031	2036
			21–22	22–23	23–24	24–25	25–26	26–27	27–28		
Bethesda–Chevy Chase HS	Program Capacity	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457
	Enrollment	2295	2299	2325	2351	2351	2356	2375	2450	2550	
	Available Space	162	158	132	106	106	101	82	7	(93)	
	Comments										
Silver Creek MS	Program Capacity	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	
	Enrollment	796	825	835	854	861	858	853	900	925	
	Available Space	139	110	100	81	74	77	82	35	10	
	Comments										
Westland MS	Program Capacity	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	
	Enrollment	803	770	771	777	783	782	778	850	925	
	Available Space	302	335	334	328	322	323	327	255	180	
	Comments										
Bethesda ES Grades (K–5)	Program Capacity	560	560	560	560	560	560	560			
	Enrollment	641	536	575	606	591	594	591			
	Available Space	(81)	24	(15)	(46)	(31)	(34)	(31)			
	Comments	See Text									
Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity	473	473	473	473	473	473	473			
	Enrollment	456	449	441	460	478	482	485			
	Available Space	17	24	32	13	(5)	(9)	(12)			
	Comments										
North Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity	335	335	335	335	335	335	335			
	Enrollment	222	249	240	245	254	258	260			
	Available Space	113	86	95	90	81	77	75			
	Comments										
Rock Creek Forest ES	Program Capacity	673	673	673	673	673	673	673			
	Enrollment	691	704	698	708	725	725	730			
	Available Space	(18)	(31)	(25)	(35)	(52)	(52)	(57)			
	Comments										
Rosemary Hills ES Grades (pre-K–2) Paired With Chevy Chase ES North Chevy Chase ES	Program Capacity	611	611	611	611	611	611	611			
	Enrollment	548	564	547	529	548	552	558			
	Available Space	63	47	64	82	63	59	53			
	Comments										
Somerset ES	Program Capacity	516	516	516	516	516	516	516			
	Enrollment	437	378	365	371	381	395	414			
	Available Space	79	138	151	145	135	121	102			
	Comments	See Text									
Westbrook ES	Program Capacity	546	615	615	615	615	615	615			
	Enrollment	286	523	570	551	547	546	556			
	Available Space	260	92	45	64	68	69	59			
	Comments	See Text	Addition Complete								
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	93%	94%	95%	96%	96%	96%	97%	100%	104%	
	HS Enrollment	2295	2299	2325	2351	2351	2356	2375	2450	2550	
	MS Utilization	78%	78%	79%	80%	81%	80%	80%	86%	91%	
	MS Enrollment	1599	1595	1606	1631	1644	1640	1631	1750	1850	
	ES Utilization	88%	90%	91%	92%	93%	94%	95%			
ES Enrollment	3281	3403	3436	3470	3524	3552	3594				

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## Demographic Characteristics of Schools

Schools	2021-2022						2020-2021		
	Total Enrollment	Two or more races %	Black or Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ESOL%**	Mobility Rate%***
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	2295	6.2%	15.6%	6.2%	18.4%	53.4%	15.0%	9.2%	6.4%
Silver Creek MS	796	5.4%	23.0%	5.8%	17.0%	48.7%	26.7%	13.6%	5.8%
Westland MS	803	8.1%	10.5%	8.6%	18.6%	53.9%	9.6%	11.0%	8.8%
Bethesda ES	641	8.0%	12.3%	19.5%	16.4%	43.7%	12.1%	23.6%	20.4%
Chevy Chase ES	456	6.1%	22.4%	10.7%	9.4%	51.3%	19.7%	11.6%	12.5%
North Chevy Chase ES	222	8.1%	22.5%	8.1%	13.1%	48.2%	24.9%	12.4%	5.3%
Rock Creek Forest ES	691	4.8%	22.4%	6.5%	35.2%	30.8%	29.7%	21.5%	12.7%
Rosemary Hills ES	548	4.7%	32.3%	5.5%	17.7%	39.4%	29.1%	16.5%	26.4%
Somerset ES	437	5.9%	11.4%	9.4%	16.5%	56.3%	12.2%	28.2%	18.0%
Westbrook ES	286	6.3%	2.8%	4.9%	16.1%	69.2%	0%	3.6%	11.4%
<b>Elementary Cluster Total</b>	<b>3281</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>19.4%</b>	<b>45.5%</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>15.7%</b>
<b>Elementary County Total</b>	<b>71278</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>24.0%</b>	<b>40.3%</b>	<b>29.1%</b>	<b>13.4%</b>

\*Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2020-2021 school year.

\*\*Percent of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) during the 2020-2021 school year. High School students are served in regional ESOL centers.

\*\*\*Mobility Rate is the number of entries plus withdrawals during the 2020-2021 school year compared to average daily membership.

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 2021-2022)

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																					
															School Based	Cluster Based	Quad Cluster Based				County & Regional Based															
															HSM @13	ELEM LAD @13	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	OTHER			
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	9-12	2457	110		108									2																						
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	673	40	4		13	12	1			6																									
Rosemary Hills ES	Pre-K-2	611	36	5		16			1		7																									
Somerset ES	K-5	516	27	4		19					3																									
Westbrook ES	K-5	546	30	4		19					3																3									

## BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

### Facility Characteristics of Schools 2021–2022

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	87,298	6.1			
Somerset ES	1949	2005	80,122	3.7			
Westbrook ES	1939	1990	91,359	12.5	Yes		



**Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School**