

WALTER JOHNSON CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Walter Johnson Cluster has experienced considerable enrollment growth in the past eight years, primarily driven by the turnover of homes to younger families. New development in the cluster also has played a role, although by a significantly smaller amount than demographic changes in existing communities. The White Flint Sector Plan, adopted in 2010, provides for up to 9,800 new multi-family residential units over the next 20–30 years. A future elementary school site is approved in the plan. The plan requires the redevelopment of existing land uses and is phased with major transit and infrastructure improvements.

The cluster also will see substantial amounts of new housing associated with the following recently approved land-use plans: Rock Spring Master Plan, White Flint 2 Sector Plan, and Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Area Minor Master Plan. Currently, there are approximately 11,340 units in the development pipeline approved, but unbuilt, within the Walter Johnson Cluster. Of the 11,340 units, approximately 10,900 are multifamily and 440 are single family units. Additional information on the various land-use plans can be found at the following weblinks:

- Rock Spring Master Plan—<https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/rock-spring/>
- White Flint 2 Sector Plan—<https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/white-flint/white-flint-2-sector-plan/>
- Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Area Minor Master Plan—<https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/grosvenor-strathmore-minor-master-plan-amendment/>

Planning Study: A Site Selection Committee was held in spring 2018, to identify possible sites for a new elementary school in the Walter Johnson Cluster. The projected space deficits at the elementary school level in the cluster was not sufficient to recommend a new elementary school for the Walter Johnson Cluster at that time. In November 2018, the Board of Education adopted a capacity study for the elementary schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster. Given the space deficits in the Walter Johnson Cluster, in November 2018, the Board of Education expanded the capacity study to explore possible solutions that would include the elementary schools in both the Walter Johnson and Bethesda-Chevy Chase clusters. The Board of Education also included a joint site selection process for the two clusters conducted in summer 2019. The adopted FY2023–2028 CIP included planning funds in the out-years for this new elementary school with a TBD completion date. An FY 2025 appropriation is recommended to begin the planning for this project. Once planning is complete, construction funds, along with a completion date, will be considered in a future CIP.

Planning Issue: On March 28, 2023, the Board of Education approved the boundary study scope to create the service area for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School. The scope of the boundary study includes the following high schools: Bethesda Chevy-Chase, Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, Walter Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Northwood, Wheaton, and Walt Whitman. The scope also includes the following middle schools: Argyle, Eastern, A. Mario Loiederman, Newport Mill, North Bethesda, Parkland, Thomas W. Pyle, Odessa Shannon, Silver Creek, Silver Spring International, Sligo, Takoma Park, Tilden, and Westland. No elementary schools are included in the boundary study. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/WoodwardHSBoundaryStudy.aspx

As part of the recommended FY 2025–2030 CIP, the completion date for the Northwood High School project is delayed one-year due to an extension of the construction timeline. As a result of Northwood High School remaining at Charles W. Woodward High School, its holding facility, for one additional year, the recommended completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High school is August 2027. A recommendation to adjust the timeline of the approved boundary study to align with the opening of Charles W. Woodward High School will be presented as part of the Board of Education’s worksessions on the FY 2025-2030 CIP.

SCHOOLS

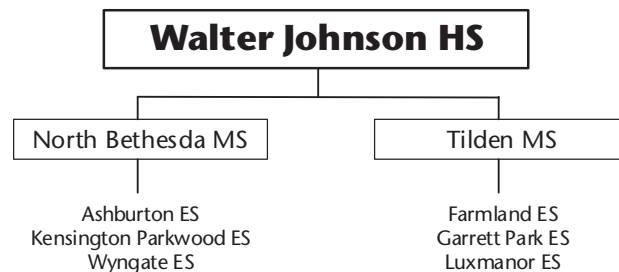
Walter Johnson High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issue.

Capital Project: To address the urgent space needs at Walter Johnson High School and the Downcounty Consortium high schools, an FY 2019 appropriation was approved for planning funds to reopen Charles W. Woodward High School. The scheduled completion date for the first phase of this project was August 2023 and the reopening of the new high

Walter Johnson Cluster Articulation

2023–2024 School Year



See Appendix U for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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school was scheduled for August 2025. Northwood High School also will be utilized to address the space needs in the Downcounty Consortium. With respect to Northwood High School, an analysis was completed that evaluated a) the possibility of doing a phased construction of Northwood High School, with students on site and b) an approach where a newly constructed and reopened Charles W. Woodward High School be used as a holding school, starting in August 2023. The evaluation compared the costs for each option, impact to students, impact on the building design, and the timeline of the project. Based on this analysis, the Board of Education approved that Charles W. Woodward High School be used as a holding school, starting in August 2023, for Northwood High School.

An FY 2022 appropriation was approved to continue construction to reopen Charles W. Woodward High School. An FY 2023 appropriation was requested for construction cost increases and the balance of construction funds. However, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council, in the adopted FY2023-2028 CIP, delayed this project one year. The additional expenditures were approved, but the reopening of the high school was scheduled to be completed August 2026. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction cost increases. As part of the recommended FY 2025–2030 CIP, the completion date for the Northwood High School project is delayed one-year due to an extension of the construction timeline. Therefore, the recommended completion date for Northwood High School is August 2027. As a result of Northwood High School remaining at Charles W. Woodward High School, its holding facility, for one additional year, the recommended completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027.

Charles W. Woodward High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issue.

Capital Project: To address the urgent space needs at Walter Johnson High School and the Downcounty Consortium high schools, an FY 2021 appropriation for construction was approved to reopen the school. The Board of Education approved that Charles W. Woodward High School be used as a holding school, starting in August 2023, for Northwood High School. An FY 2023 appropriation was requested for construction cost increases and the balance of construction funds. However, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council, in the adopted FY2023-2028 CIP, delayed this project one-year. The additional expenditures were approved, but the scheduled completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2026. An FY2024 appropriation was approved for construction cost increases. As part of the recommended FY 2025–2030 CIP, the completion date for the Northwood High School project is delayed one-year due to an extension of the construction timeline. Therefore, the recommended completion date for Northwood High School is August 2027. As a result of Northwood High School remaining at Charles W. Woodward High School, its holding

facility, for one additional year, the recommended completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027.

North Bethesda Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issue.

Tilden Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issue.

Ashburton Elementary School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Clusters Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

Capital Project: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed capacity for some of the elementary schools in these two clusters. An FY 2025 appropriation is recommended to begin planning this project. Once planning is complete, construction funds, along with a completion date, will be considered in a future CIP.

Farmland Elementary School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

Garrett Park Elementary School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

Kensington-Parkwood Elementary School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

Luxmanor Elementary School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

Wyngate Elementary School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Study.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Charles W. Woodward HS	New School	Delayed	August 2024/2027
Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Clusters ES	New	Recommended	TBD

*Approved—Project has an approved FY 2024 appropriation in the amended FY 2023–2028 CIP for planning or construction funds.

*Recommended—Project has a recommended FY 2025 appropriation in the FY2025–2030 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 Superintendent's Recommended FY 2025 Capital Budget and the FY 2025–2030 CIP

Schools		Prelim.	Projections							2033	2038
			23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30		
Walter Johnson HS	Program Capacity	2299	2299	2299	2299	2299	2299	2299	2299	2299	
	Enrollment	2987	3004	3020	2975	2950	2969	2991	3015	3015	
	Available Space	(688)	(705)	(721)	(676)	(651)	(670)	(692)	(716)	(716)	
	Comments	See Text									
Charles W. Woodward HS	Program Capacity					2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	
	Enrollment					0	0	0	0	0	
	Available Space					2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	
	Comments	See Text				Opens					
North Bethesda MS	Program Capacity	1203	1203	1203	1203	1203	1203	1203	1203	1203	
	Enrollment	1166	1173	1162	1166	1188	1197	1204	1284	1284	
	Available Space	37	30	41	37	15	6	(1)	(81)	(81)	
	Comments	See Text									
Tilden MS	Program Capacity	1264	1264	1264	1264	1264	1264	1264	1264	1264	
	Enrollment	1084	1070	1061	1079	1098	1106	1112	1125	1125	
	Available Space	180	194	203	185	166	158	152	139	139	
	Comments	See Text									
Ashburton ES	Program Capacity	822	822	822	822	822	822	822			
	Enrollment	835	884	899	900	880	853	862			
	Available Space	(13)	(62)	(77)	(78)	(58)	(31)	(40)			
	Comments	See Text									
Farmland ES	Program Capacity	724	724	724	724	724	724	724			
	Enrollment	818	804	798	824	815	792	797			
	Available Space	(94)	(80)	(74)	(100)	(91)	(68)	(73)			
	Comments	See Text									
Garrett Park ES	Program Capacity	777	777	777	777	777	777	777			
	Enrollment	690	735	718	713	711	704	705			
	Available Space	87	42	59	64	66	73	72			
	Comments	See Text									
Kensington–Parkwood ES	Program Capacity	819	819	819	819	819	819	819			
	Enrollment	572	546	538	539	530	538	546			
	Available Space	247	273	281	280	289	281	273			
	Comments	See Text									
Luxmanor ES	Program Capacity	746	746	746	746	746	746	746			
	Enrollment	726	753	748	766	780	769	758			
	Available Space	20	(7)	(2)	(20)	(34)	(23)	(12)			
	Comments	See Text									
Wyngate ES	Program Capacity	801	801	801	801	801	801	801			
	Enrollment	678	643	629	631	621	615	616			
	Available Space	123	158	172	170	180	186	185			
	Comments	See Text									
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	130%	131%	131%	129%	128%	129%	130%	131%	131%	
	HS Enrollment	2987	3004	3020	2975	2950	2969	2991	3015	3015	
	MS Utilization	91%	91%	90%	91%	93%	93%	94%	98%	98%	
	MS Enrollment	2250	2243	2223	2245	2286	2303	2316	2409	2409	
	ES Utilization	92%	93%	92%	93%	92%	91%	91%			
	ES Enrollment	4319	4365	4330	4373	4337	4271	4284			

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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%***
Walter Johnson HS	2987	6.7%	14.6%	12.5%	18.7%	47.2%	18.4%	5.9%	9.1%
North Bethesda MS	1166	8.1%	13.5%	12.4%	16.1%	49.7%	14.4%	5.4%	8.4%
Tilden MS	1084	6.8%	14.0%	17.3%	23.0%	38.6%	28.1%	14.8%	11.5%
Ashburton ES	835	9.0%	18.0%	19.3%	17.7%	35.9%	20.5%	14.4%	13.8%
Farmland ES	818	5.6%	9.9%	31.2%	13.8%	39.2%	19.1%	28.6%	19.7%
Garrett Park ES	690	9.1%	12.9%	14.6%	23.9%	39.3%	24.6%	22.4%	15.5%
Kensington-Parkwood ES	572	8.6%	8.0%	11.2%	17.0%	55.2%	16.4%	11.5%	8.4%
Luxmanor ES	726	8.3%	16.7%	26.2%	23.1%	25.6%	27.6%	23.9%	17.1%
Wyngate ES	678	11.9%	5.5%	13.3%	13.0%	56.3%	4.9%	7.8%	7.3%
Elementary Cluster Total	4319	8.7%	12.1%	19.9%	18.0%	41.1%	18.8%	18.3%	13.9%
Elementary County Total	72363	5.5%	21.4%	13.2%	36.0%	23.5%	47.5%	24.8%	15.7%

*Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2022-2023 school year.

**Percent of English Language Development students (ELD) during the 2022-2023 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 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 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									
Walter Johnson HS	9-12	2299	106		99											3																								
North Bethesda MS	6-8	1203	59		55																																			
Tilden MS	6-8	1264	63		57												2																							
Ashburton ES	K-5	822	39	3		30						6																												
Farmland ES	K-5	724	37	3		24						6													4															
Garrett Park ES	K-5	777	37	3		29						5																												
Kensington-Parkwood ES	K-5	819	41	3		31						4																												
Luxmanor ES	K-5	746	39	3		24						5																												
Wyngate ES	K-5	801	38	3		31						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
Walter Johnson HS	1956	2009	365,138	30.86		15	
North Bethesda MS	1955	1999	178,252	19.11			
Tilden MS	1967	2020	244,561	19.67			
Ashburton ES	1957	1993	91,178	8.3		8	
Farmland ES	1963	2011	89,988	4.75	Yes	4	
Garrett Park ES	1948	2012	96,348	4.38	Yes		
Kensington-Parkwood ES	1952	2006	102,382	9.86			
Luxmanor ES	1966	2020	99,376	6.49	Yes		
Wyngate ES	1952	1997	89,104	9.5			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.

**Tilden MS is colocated with Rock Terrace School