

# BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

## CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster includes four adopted Sector Plans—Bethesda Downtown, adopted 2017; Chevy Chase Lake, adopted 2013; Greater Lyttonsville, adopted 2017; and Westbard, adopted 2016. A brief description of each is below. 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.

- The Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan will provide additional multi-family residential units in downtown Bethesda and require a larger percentage (15%) of affordable units in new developments. There are currently seven approved residential or mixed-use developments in the pipeline which include 4,853 mainly high-rise dwelling units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/bethesda-downtown-plan/>.
- The Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan includes up to 1,400 mostly multi-family residential units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/chevy-chase-lake/>.
- The Greater Lyttonsville Plan includes up to 3,749 new multifamily high-rise housing units and 132 townhouse units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/greater-lyttonsville/>.
- The Westbard Sector Plan could yield approximately 516 multifamily high-rise, 487 multifamily mid-rise, and 135 townhouse units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: [https://montgomeryplanning.org/community/westbard/documents/westbard\\_for\\_web9.1.pdf](https://montgomeryplanning.org/community/westbard/documents/westbard_for_web9.1.pdf).

**Planning Study:** 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. 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 was requested for planning funds, however, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted those 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.

**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.

As part of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP, the completion date for the Northwood High School project was 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 completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027. On March 19, 2024, the Board of Education adopted a revised timeline for the boundary study. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/woodwardhsboundarystudy/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/woodwardhsboundarystudy/)

## SCHOOLS

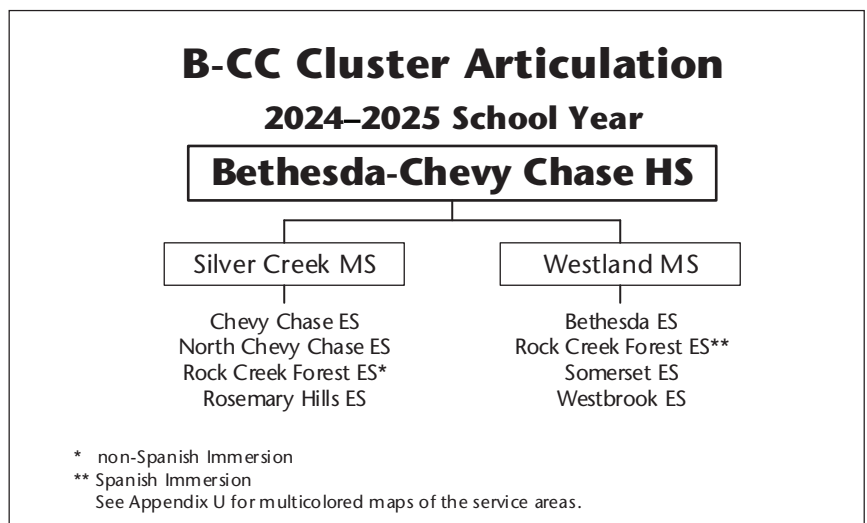
### Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School

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

### Charles W. Woodward High School

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

**Capital Project:** To address the urgent space needs at Walter Johnson High School and the Downcounty Consortium



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high schools, an FY 2021 appropriation for construction was approved for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High 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 FY 2023-2028 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 was August 2026. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction cost increases. As part of the Board of Education's approved FY2025–2030 CIP, the construction schedule for the Northwood High School project was extended one year, with a completion date of August 2027. Since Charles W. Woodward High School is the holding facility for Northwood High School, the completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027. 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 III for this project that will include the construction of the auditorium. An FY 2026 appropriation and amendment to the FY 2025–2030 CIP is recommended to complete Phase III, the interior fit-out of the auditorium and other associated spaces, and keep the completion date of August 2027.

### Silver Creek Middle School

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

### Westland Middle School

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

### Bethesda Elementary School

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

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

**Planning Issue:** 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. An FY 2025 appropriation was requested for planning funds, however, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted those 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.

### Chevy Chase Elementary School

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

### North Chevy Chase Elementary School

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

### Rock Creek Forest Elementary School

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

### Rosemary Hills Elementary School

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

### Somerset Elementary School

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

### Westbrook Elementary School

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

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

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

**Approved**—Project has an approved FY 2025 appropriation in the FY 2025–2030 CIP for planning or construction funds.

**Recommended**—Project has a recommended FY 2026 appropriation for planning or construction in the FY 2025–2030 CIP.

**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 2026 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2025–2030 CIP

Schools			Prelim.	Projections							
			24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	2034	2039
Bethesda–Chevy Chase HS	Program Capacity		2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475
	Enrollment		2382	2384	2420	2389	2417	2429	2463	2475	2475
	Available Space		93	91	55	86	58	46	12	0	0
	Comments	See Text									
Charles W. Woodward HS	Program Capacity					2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249
	Enrollment				0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Available Space				2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249	2249
	Comments	See Text				Opens					
Silver Creek MS	Program Capacity		915	915	915	915	915	915	915	915	915
	Enrollment		753	760	757	773	776	776	762	765	765
	Available Space		162	155	158	142	139	139	153	150	150
	Comments	See Text									
Westland MS	Program Capacity		1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064
	Enrollment		839	824	831	851	854	855	840	850	850
	Available Space		225	240	233	213	210	209	224	214	214
	Comments	See Text									
Bethesda ES Grades (K–5)	Program Capacity		560	560	560	560	560	560	560		
	Enrollment		644	653	637	623	667	642	631		
	Available Space		(84)	(93)	(77)	(63)	(107)	(82)	(71)		
	Comments	See Text									
Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity		483	483	483	483	483	483	483		
	Enrollment		434	451	467	481	485	488	471		
	Available Space		49	32	16	2	(2)	(5)	12		
	Comments	See Text									
North Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity		391	391	391	391	391	391	391		
	Enrollment		237	236	251	258	261	263	250		
	Available Space		154	155	140	133	130	128	141		
	Comments	See Text									
Rock Creek Forest ES	Program Capacity		771	771	771	771	771	771	771		
	Enrollment		692	700	684	691	696	687	681		
	Available Space		79	71	87	80	75	84	90		
	Comments	See Text									
Rosemary Hills ES Grades (pre-K–2) Paired With Chevy Chase ES North Chevy Chase ES	Program Capacity		650	650	650	650	650	650	650		
	Enrollment		507	481	471	480	485	486	487		
	Available Space		143	169	179	170	165	164	163		
	Comments	See Text									
Somerset ES	Program Capacity		550	550	550	550	550	550	550		
	Enrollment		313	310	325	336	337	336	340		
	Available Space		237	240	225	214	213	214	210		
	Comments	See Text									
Westbrook ES	Program Capacity		648	648	648	648	648	648	648		
	Enrollment		467	441	428	420	405	404	415		
	Available Space		181	207	220	228	243	244	233		
	Comments	See Text									
Cluster Information	HS Utilization		96%	96%	98%	97%	98%	98%	100%	100%	100%
	HS Enrollment		2382	2384	2420	2389	2417	2429	2463	2475	2475
	MS Utilization		80%	80%	80%	82%	82%	82%	81%	82%	82%
	MS Enrollment		1592	1584	1588	1624	1630	1631	1602	1615	1615
	ES Utilization		81%	81%	81%	81%	82%	82%	81%		
	ES Enrollment		3294	3272	3263	3289	3336	3306	3275		



## BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

### Facility Characteristics of Schools 2024–2025

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized/ Maj. Cap. Proj.	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms*	County Programs
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	1934	2001	392,833	16.36			
Silver Creek MS	2017		174,743	13.3			
Westland MS	1951	1997	146,006	25.1			
Bethesda ES	1952	1999	75,421	7.93		4	
Chevy Chase ES	1936	2000	70,976	3.78			
North Chevy Chase ES	1953	1995	65,982	7.9			
Rock Creek Forest ES	1950	2015	98,140	7.96			
Rosemary Hills ES	1956	1988	87,298	6.07			
Somerset ES	1949	2005	80,122	3.7			
Westbrook ES	1939	1990	91,359	12.46	Yes		

\*See Appendix H for relocatable use.