

DAMASCUS CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

Planning Issue: On March 19, 2024, the Board of Education approved the boundary study scope to determine the service area for the new Crown High School and the Expansion of Damascus High School. The scope of the boundary study includes the following high schools: Winston Churchill, Clarksburg, Damascus, Gaithersburg, Richard Montgomery, Northwest, Poolesville, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley, Watkins Mill, and Thomas S. Wootton. The scope also includes the following middle schools: John T. Baker, Cabin John, Roberto W. Clemente, Forest Oak, Robert Frost, Gaithersburg, Herbert Hoover, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Kingsview, Lakelands Park, Montgomery Village, Neelsville, John Poole, Ridgeview Rocky Hill, Hallie Wells, and Julius West. No elementary schools are included in the boundary study.

As part of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP, the approved completion date for the new Crown High School is August 2027. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted the expenditures for the Damascus High School Major Capital Project to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP with a “to be determined” completion date. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/crowndamascusboundarystudy/

SCHOOLS

Crown High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: The adopted CIP includes expenditures 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. An FY 2020 appropriation was approved for planning to begin the architectural design for this project with a completion date of August 2025. As part of the FY 2021–2026 CIP, the County Council delayed the expenditures and completion date to August 2026. An FY 2023 appropriation was requested for construction cost increases and construction funds. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council, in the adopted FY2023–2028 CIP, delayed this project one year, but approved the additional expenditures. An FY2024 appropriation was approved for construction funds. 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 II for this project which will include the construction of the

auditorium. The build out of the shell, the outside structure, of the auditorium is part of the Phase I construction. An FY 2025 appropriation was approved for the balance of funding and to build out the outside structure of the auditorium. An FY 2026 appropriation and amendment to the FY 2025–2030 CIP is recommended to complete Phase II, the interior fit-out of the auditorium, teaching spaces, and upgrade site amenities. This new high school is scheduled to be completed August 2027

Damascus High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: A Major Capital Project was approved to address various building systems and programmatic needs for this school. The Board of Education, in the requested FY 2021–2026 CIP, included expenditures in FY 2022 to continue the planning and design of this major capital project with a completion date of August 2025, the County Council delayed the expenditures by one-year. An FY 2023 appropriation was approved to begin the design of this Major Capital Project. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction funds. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted the expenditures for the Damascus High School Major Capital Project to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP with a “to be determined” completion date.

John T. Baker Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Hallie Wells Middle School

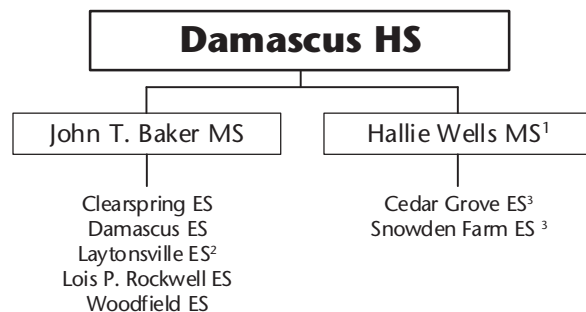
Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Damascus Elementary School

Capital Project: As part of the adopted FY 2023–2028 CIP, this school was approved for a feasibility study for a major capital project. The Key Facilities Indicators (KFI) were utilized to identify schools for possible major capital projects. The scope for the project will be identified based on the individual building system and programmatic and capacity needs for each school.

Damascus Cluster Articulation

2024–2025 School Year



¹ Wilson Wims ES articulates to Hallie Wells MS and then to Clarksburg HS.

² Most of Laytonsville ES articulates to Gaithersburg MS and Gaithersburg HS.

³ Portions of Cedar Grove ES and Snowden Farm ES also articulate to Clarksburg HS. See Appendix U for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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An FY 2025 appropriation was approved to begin the planning and design for this project. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted construction placeholder 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. It is recommended that a portion of the out-year placeholder expenditures for this project be reallocated to other CIP projects in order to keep them on their approved schedules.

Woodfield Elementary School

Planning Study: This school was approved for a feasibility study for a major capital project. The Key Facilities Indicators (KFI) were utilized to identify schools for possible major capital projects. The scope for the project will be identified based on the individual building system and programmatic and capacity needs for each school. Once the feasibility study is complete, a recommendation regarding scope, timeline and funding will be considered in a future CIP.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Recommended	August 2027
Damascus HS	Major Capital Project	Programmed	TBD
Damascus ES	Major Capital Project	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
Damascus HS	Program Capacity	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543
	Enrollment	1385	1482	1484	1519	1518	1527	1549	1590	1590
	Available Space	158	61	59	24	25	16	(6)	(47)	(47)
	Comments	See Text								
Crown HS	Program Capacity				2219	2219	2219	2219	2219	2219
	Enrollment				0	0	0	0	0	0
	Available Space				2219	2219	2219	2219	2219	2219
	Comments	See Text			Opens					
John T. Baker MS	Program Capacity	750	750	750	750	750	750	750	750	750
	Enrollment	843	840	851	858	859	861	846	865	865
	Available Space	(93)	(90)	(101)	(108)	(109)	(111)	(96)	(115)	(115)
	Comments	See Text								
Hallie Wells MS	Program Capacity	982	982	982	982	982	982	982	982	982
	Enrollment	931	925	915	948	950	952	935	950	950
	Available Space	51	57	67	34	32	30	47	32	32
	Comments	See Text								
Cedar Grove ES	Program Capacity	419	419	419	419	419	419	419		
	Enrollment	327	309	293	281	277	285	281		
	Available Space	92	110	126	138	142	134	138		
	Comments									
Clearspring ES	Program Capacity	557	557	557	557	557	557	557		
	Enrollment	541	524	524	511	498	492	492		
	Available Space	16	33	33	46	59	65	65		
	Comments									
Damascus ES	Program Capacity	334	334	334	334	334	334	334		
	Enrollment	333	327	323	307	303	297	301		
	Available Space	1	7	11	27	31	37	33		
	Comments	Planning for MCP								
Lois P. Rockwell ES	Program Capacity	575	575	575	575	575	575	575		
	Enrollment	521	512	508	513	499	495	501		
	Available Space	54	63	67	62	76	80	74		
	Comments									
Snowden Farm ES	Program Capacity	763	763	763	763	763	763	763		
	Enrollment	578	530	474	438	428	428	434		
	Available Space	185	233	289	325	335	335	329		
	Comments									
Woodfield ES	Program Capacity	375	375	375	375	375	375	375		
	Enrollment	319	311	304	291	283	278	281		
	Available Space	56	64	71	84	92	97	94		
	Comments									
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	90%	96%	96%	98%	98%	99%	100%	103%	103%
	HS Enrollment	1385	1482	1484	1519	1518	1527	1549	1590	1590
	MS Utilization	102%	102%	102%	104%	104%	105%	103%	105%	105%
	MS Enrollment	1774	1765	1766	1806	1809	1813	1781	1815	1815
	ES Enrollment	2619	2513	2426	2341	2288	2275	2290		

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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
Damascus HS	1950	1978	235,986	32.66			
John T. Baker MS	1971		120,532	21.65	Yes	2	
Hallie Wells MS	2016		150,089	22.37			
Cedar Grove ES	1960	1987	57,037	10.1			
Clearspring ES	1988		77,535	10	Yes	2	
Damascus ES	1934	1980	53,239	9.4		4	
Lois P. Rockwell ES	1992		75,520	10.57			
Snowden Farm ES	2019		92,366	9.79			
Woodfield ES	1962	1985	53,212	10			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.