

# RICHARD MONTGOMERY CLUSTER

## CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The City of Rockville adopted the Rockville Pike Neighborhood Plan in March 2016. Additional residential units, mostly multi-family units, are allowed in the Rockville Pike corridor. This development would occur on either side of Rockville Pike, from the intersection at Veirs Mill Road at the north to Rollins Avenue in the south. Most of this area is in the Richard Montgomery Cluster. The plan will require the redevelopment of existing land uses and require significant roadway improvements. It is anticipated that the plan will take 20 to 30 years to build-out and the pace of construction will be market driven. In addition, there are two master plans/ amendments that include portions of the cluster—The Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment, adopted in 2021 and The Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan, adopted in 2019. Additional information on these plans can be found at the following weblinks: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/shady-grove/shady-grove-minor-master-plan-amendment/> and <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/midcounty/veirs-mill-corridor-plan/>.

**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: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/crowndamascusboundarystudy/>

## SCHOOLS

### Crown High School

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

**Capital Project:** The approved 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.

### Richard Montgomery High School

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

### Julius West Middle School

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

### Twinbrook 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

## Richard Montgomery Cluster Articulation

2024–2025 School Year

Richard Montgomery HS

Julius West MS

Beall ES  
College Gardens ES  
Ritchie Park ES  
Bayard Rustin ES  
Twinbrook ES

See Appendix U for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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for the project will be identified based on the individual building system and programmatic and capacity needs for each school. 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.

### CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Recommended	August 2027
Twinbrook 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
Richard Montgomery HS		Program Capacity	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236	2236
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>2358</b>	<b>2393</b>	<b>2375</b>	<b>2381</b>	<b>2410</b>	<b>2424</b>	<b>2460</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>2500</b>
		Available Space	(122)	(157)	(139)	(145)	(174)	(188)	(224)	(264)	(264)
		Comments	See Text								
Crown HS		Program Capacity				2219	2219	2219	2219	2219	2219
		<b>Enrollment</b>				<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
		Available Space				2219	2219	2219	2219	2219	2219
		Comments	See Text			Opens					
Julius West MS		Program Capacity	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>1369</b>	<b>1403</b>	<b>1440</b>	<b>1453</b>	<b>1456</b>	<b>1459</b>	<b>1433</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>1450</b>
		Available Space	63	29	(8)	(21)	(24)	(27)	(1)	(18)	(18)
		Comments	See Text								
Beall ES		Program Capacity	663	663	663	663	663	663	663		
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>482</b>		
		Available Space	178	184	191	197	176	179	181		
		Comments									
College Gardens ES		Program Capacity	702	702	702	702	702	702	702		
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>529</b>		
		Available Space	195	200	208	207	202	175	173		
		Comments									
Ritchie Park ES		Program Capacity	411	411	411	411	411	411	411		
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>327</b>		
		Available Space	69	77	86	87	88	84	84		
		Comments									
Bayard Rustin ES		Program Capacity	790	790	790	790	790	790	790		
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>737</b>		
		Available Space	32	33	23	50	46	52	53		
		Comments									
Twinbrook ES	CSR	Program Capacity	616	616	616	616	616	616	616		
		<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>434</b>		
		Available Space	155	154	162	176	169	175	182		
		Comments	Planning for MCP								
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	105%	107%	106%	106%	108%	108%	110%	112%	112%
		HS Enrollment	2358	2393	2375	2381	2410	2424	2460	2500	2500
		MS Utilization	96%	98%	101%	101%	102%	102%	100%	101%	101%
		MS Enrollment	1369	1403	1440	1453	1456	1459	1433	1450	1450
		ES Enrollment	2553	2200	2187	2141	2178	2190	2182		



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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
Richard Montgomery HS	1942	2007	311,500	29.05		9	
Julius West MS	1961	1995	182,617	21.3			
Beall ES	1954	1991	79,477	8.4	Yes		
College Gardens ES	1967	2008	96,986	7.9	Yes		
Ritchie Park ES	1966	1997	58,500	9.2			
Bayard Rustin ES	2018		97,397	10.9		2	
Twinbrook ES	1952	1986	79,818	10.45			

\*See Appendix H for relocatable use.