

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 included 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 included 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 were included in the boundary study.

On March 26, 2026 the Board of Education approved the boundaries with an implementation timeline beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. Based on declining enrollment a 27th high school is not needed to open at this time and the decision was that Thomas S. Wootton High School will be relocated to the Crown Farm facility site. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/boundary-study

Due to declining enrollment the Board of Education on March 26, 2026 approved a study for consolidation and closure along with a countywide elementary school boundary study along with any impacted secondary schools for implementation in the 2029-2030 school year.

■ SCHOOLS

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. The approved FY 2027-2032 CIP includes the design and construction of a major capital project, with design to begin in FY 2027. This replacement project will be

built with additional capacity to relieve overutilization in adjacent clusters. The approved completion date for the building is August 2031, followed by sitework completion in August 2032. Students and staff will remain on-site during construction.

■ Major Capital Projects

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Damascus HS	Replacement	Approved	August 2031 for the building and August 2032 for the site

Approved—Project has an approved FY 2027 appropriation in the FY 2027–2032 CIP for planning or construction funds.

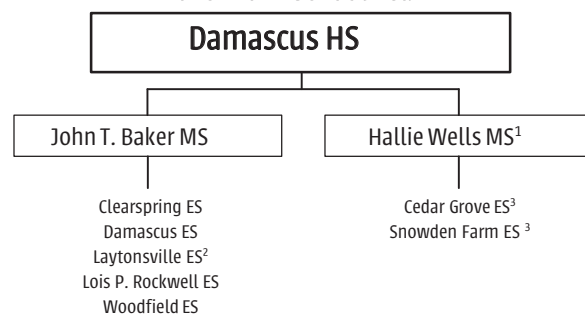
Recommended—Project has a recommended FY 2028 appropriation in the amended FY 2027–2032 CIP for planning or construction.

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.

Damascus Cluster Articulation

2026- 2027 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 V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

DAMASCUS CLUSTER

Projected Enrollment and Space Availability

Effects of the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2028 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2027-2032 Capital Improvements Program

Schools		Prelim.	Projections										
		26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	34-35	35-36	36-37	41-42
Damascus HS	Program Capacity	1511	1511	1511	1511	1511	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250	2250
	Enrollment	1458	1791	1675	1634	1637	1835	1901	1958	1942	1912	1896	1896
	Available Space	53	(280)	(164)	(123)	(126)	415	349	292	308	338	354	354
	Comments	Planning for MCP	See Text				Building Complete	Site Complete					
John T. Baker MS	Program Capacity	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735
	Enrollment	790	678	700	695	669	657	640	634	647	634	631	641
	Available Space	(55)	57	35	40	66	78	95	101	88	101	104	94
	Comments	See Text											
Hallie Wells MS	Program Capacity	977	977	977	977	977	977	977	977	977	977	977	977
	Enrollment	878	892	888	853	821	807	787	779	783	781	776	776
	Available Space	99	85	89	124	156	170	190	198	194	196	201	201
	Comments	See Text											
Cedar Grove ES	Program Capacity	434	434	434	434	434	434	434	434	434	434	434	
	Enrollment	306	303	304	309	315	318	307	307	303	302	300	
	Available Space	128	131	130	125	119	116	127	127	131	132	134	
	Comments	See Text											
Clearspring ES	Program Capacity	537	537	537	537	537	537	537	537	537	537	537	
	Enrollment	539	532	525	512	511	510	503	503	498	498	496	
	Available Space	(2)	5	12	25	26	27	34	34	39	39	41	
	Comments	See Text											
Damascus ES	Program Capacity	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	
	Enrollment	340	338	344	347	352	342	335	333	328	327	325	
	Available Space	(60)	(58)	(64)	(67)	(72)	(62)	(55)	(53)	(48)	(47)	(45)	
	Comments	See Text											
Lois P. Rockwell ES	Program Capacity	453	453	453	453	453	453	453	453	453	453	453	
	Enrollment	479	473	431	423	408	403	393	391	385	384	383	
	Available Space	(26)	(20)	22	30	45	50	60	62	68	69	70	
	Comments	See Text											
Snowden Farm ES	Program Capacity	724	724	724	724	724	724	724	724	724	724	724	
	Enrollment	487	445	442	429	415	425	422	421	416	415	413	
	Available Space	237	279	282	295	309	299	302	303	308	309	311	
	Comments	See Text											
Woodfield ES	Program Capacity	388	388	388	388	388	388	388	388	388	388	388	
	Enrollment	271	250	239	233	230	230	225	226	224	223	222	
	Available Space	117	138	149	155	158	158	163	162	164	165	166	
	Comments	See Text											
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	96%	119%	111%	108%	108%	82%	84%	87%	86%	85%	84%	84%
	HS Enrollment	1458	1791	1675	1634	1637	1835	1901	1958	1942	1912	1896	1896
	MS Utilization	97%	92%	93%	90%	87%	86%	83%	83%	84%	83%	82%	83%
	MS Enrollment	1668	1570	1588	1548	1490	1464	1427	1413	1430	1415	1407	1417
	ES Utilization	86%	83%	81%	80%	79%	79%	78%	77%	76%	76%	76%	
	ES Enrollment	2422	2341	2285	2253	2231	2228	2185	2181	2154	2149	2139	

DAMASCUS CLUSTER

Demographic Characteristics of Schools

Schools	2026-2027						2025-2026		
	Total Enrollment	Two or more races %	Black or Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ELD%*	Mobility Rate***
Damascus HS	1458	6.7%	13.9%	11.3%	32.0%	35.7%	29.1%	8.3%	8.5%
John T. Baker MS	790	6.5%	13.0%	7.3%	36.6%	36.2%	38.0%	10.6%	7.8%
Hallie Wells MS	878	5.2%	20.6%	40.0%	14.4%	19.5%	21.6%	5.0%	8.0%
Cedar Grove ES	306	5.2%	18.3%	35.6%	19.6%	20.6%	28.0%	10.8%	12.4%
Clearspring ES	539	8.0%	17.3%	15.0%	32.8%	26.5%	40.8%	13.0%	8.6%
Damascus ES	340	5.9%	12.6%	7.6%	38.8%	35.0%	43.5%	21.3%	16.9%
Lois P. Rockwell ES	479	7.5%	13.8%	9.0%	32.2%	37.0%	34.0%	9.2%	9.1%
Snowden Farm ES	487	5.7%	23.2%	43.1%	14.4%	13.3%	22.7%	10.2%	11.7%
Woodfield ES	271	6.6%	15.5%	9.2%	29.2%	39.1%	30.7%	9.6%	8.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2422	6.6%	17.1%	20.4%	27.7%	27.8%	33.9%	12.4%	9.0%
Elementary County Total	67343	6.3%	21.7%	12.8%	36.0%	23.0%	41.6%	25.5%	14.1%

*Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2025–2026 school year.

**Percent of English Language Development students (ELD) during the 2025–2026 school year. High School students are served in regional ELD centers.

***Mobility Rate is the number of entries plus withdrawals during the 2025–2026 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 2026–2027)

Program Capacity Table (School Year 2026–2027)																		Special Education Services																	
																		Quad Cluster Based						County & Regional Based											
																								ELC @8	LANG @8	LFI @8	SCB @8	AMC@8	AUT @8	BRIDGE @8	DHOH @8	SESES @8	EXTENSIONS @8	2e @8	PD @8
Schools	Grades Served	Capacity (HS @90% MS@85%)	Total Rooms	Specials	Regular Secondary @25	Base & Tier 1 Kinder @ 22	Base & Tier 1 Grades 1-2 @ 22	Base & Tier 1 Grades 3-5 @ 24	Tier 2 + 3 Kindergarten @19	Tier 2 + 3 Grades 1-2 @19	Tier 2 + 3 Grades 3-5 @22	Pre-K @20	Pre-K @40	HS @20	ELD @15	SLIFE @15	OTHER																		
Damascus HS	9-12	1511	74		64										1		1				4	4													
John T. Baker MS	6-8	735	38		33																3	2													
Hallie Wells MS	6-8	977	48		45																					3									
Cedar Grove ES	K-5	434	25	3		2	5	10																5											
Clearspring ES	HS-5	537	33	4					3	6	13	2							5																
Damascus ES	K-5	280	21	4					3	5	4										2	3													
Lois P. Rockwell ES	PreK-5	453	29	4					3	6	8	1					1					1									2	3			
Snowden Farm ES	K-5	724	38	3		3	7	19															3			3									
Woodfield ES	K-5	388	24	3		2	4	7															5							1	2				

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Facility Characteristics of Schools 2026–2027

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		6	
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.