

GAITHERSBURG CLUSTER

■ CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The City of Gaithersburg is updating its Master Plan, Build Gaithersburg 2040 which gives a big picture look, defining visions and goals with land use and transportation elements. The overall recommendations for key areas of the City will be presented in June 2026 to the Mayor and City Council.

The Shady Grove Innovation Center site plan approval approved in October 2025 includes Phase 1 with 136 units and phase 2 with 360 units.

PLANNING ISSUE: There are three Master Plans—The Great Seneca Science Corridor Minor Master Plan, The Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment, and The Montgomery Village Master Plan—that involve portions of the Gaithersburg Cluster. It is anticipated that these plans will take 20–30 years to build-out, with the pace of construction being market driven. In addition, there are approximately 2,800 units in the development pipeline approved, but unbuilt, within the cluster. Of the 2,800 units, approximately 2,260 are multifamily and 540 are single family units.

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.

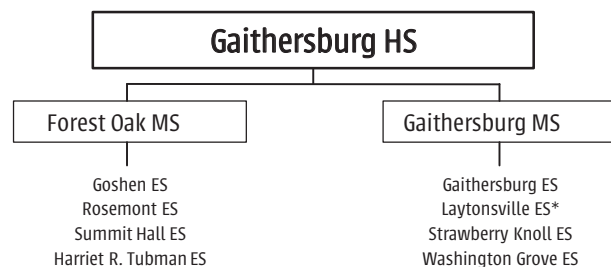
As part of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP, the approved completion date for the new Crown High School is August 2027. Due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted the expenditures for Damascus High School Major Capital Project to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP with a “to be determined” completion date. In the Adopted FY 2027–2032 CIP the completion date for the Damascus HS replacement is August 2031. 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.

Gaithersburg Cluster Articulation

2026–2027 School Year



* A portion of Laytonsville ES also articulates to John T. Baker MS and then Damascus HS. See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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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
Gaithersburg HS	Program Capacity	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413	2413
	Enrollment	2150	2145	2048	1964	1921	1937	1918	1895	1843	1796	1760	1760
	Available Space	263	268	365	449	492	476	495	518	570	617	653	653
	Comments		See Text										
Forest Oak MS	Program Capacity	944	944	944	944	944	944	944	944	944	944	944	944
	Enrollment	764	997	959	941	911	893	870	868	871	878	857	857
	Available Space	180	(53)	(15)	3	33	51	74	76	73	66	87	87
	Comments	See Text											
Gaithersburg MS	Program Capacity	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022	1022
	Enrollment	847	998	1024	1033	1004	986	962	953	957	953	947	947
	Available Space	175	24	(2)	(11)	18	36	60	69	65	69	75	75
	Comments	See Text											
Gaithersburg ES	Program Capacity	793	793	793	793	793	793	793	793	793	793	793	
	Enrollment	536	496	480	477	471	467	457	454	447	446	443	
	Available Space	257	297	313	316	322	326	336	339	346	347	350	
	Comments	See Text											
Goshen ES	Program Capacity	591	591	591	591	591	591	591	591	591	591	591	
	Enrollment	417	402	392	371	373	370	366	365	359	358	356	
	Available Space	174	189	199	220	218	221	225	226	232	233	235	
	Comments	See Text											
Laytonsville ES	Program Capacity	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	448	
	Enrollment	354	350	348	341	338	326	327	324	320	320	316	
	Available Space	94	98	100	107	110	122	121	124	128	128	132	
	Comments	See Text											
Rosemont ES	Program Capacity	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	557	
	Enrollment	558	527	521	538	539	520	523	519	513	512	509	
	Available Space	(1)	30	36	19	18	37	34	38	44	45	48	
	Comments	See Text											
Strawberry Knoll ES	Program Capacity	461	461	461	461	461	461	461	461	461	461	461	
	Enrollment	409	383	372	363	355	347	349	348	345	344	341	
	Available Space	52	78	89	98	106	114	112	113	116	117	120	
	Comments	See Text											
Summit Hall ES	Program Capacity	455	455	455	455	455	455	455	455	455	455	455	
	Enrollment	393	362	358	346	337	327	337	335	330	329	329	
	Available Space	62	93	97	109	118	128	118	120	125	126	126	
	Comments	See Text											
Harriet R. Tubman ES	Program Capacity	656	656	656	656	656	656	656	656	656	656	656	
	Enrollment	555	527	493	477	471	462	468	462	457	456	452	
	Available Space	101	129	163	179	185	194	188	194	199	200	204	
	Comments	See Text											
Washington Grove ES	Program Capacity	544	544	544	544	544	544	544	544	544	544	544	
	Enrollment	466	525	550	550	517	504	504	501	496	495	492	
	Available Space	78	19	(6)	(6)	27	40	40	43	48	49	52	
	Comments	See Text											
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	89%	89%	85%	81%	80%	80%	79%	79%	76%	74%	73%	73%
	HS Enrollment	2150	2145	2048	1964	1921	1937	1918	1895	1843	1796	1760	1760
	MS Utilization	82%	101%	101%	100%	97%	96%	93%	93%	93%	93%	92%	92%
	MS Enrollment	1611	1995	1983	1974	1915	1879	1832	1821	1828	1831	1804	1804
	ES Utilization	81%	79%	67%	66%	65%	64%	64%	63%	62%	62%	62%	
	ES Enrollment	3133	3572	3021	2986	3401	3323	3331	3308	3267	3260	3238	

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%***
Gaithersburg HS	2150	3.5%	21.2%	6.5%	61.1%	7.6%	55.6%	31.7%	20.4%
Forest Oak MS	764	2.4%	19.5%	4.6%	66.4%	6.3%	54.9%	29.6%	19.2%
Gaithersburg MS	847	4.3%	24.4%	5.8%	56.7%	8.5%	62.3%	28.6%	18.9%
Gaithersburg ES	536	1.5%	15.3%	2.2%	79.1%	1.5%	64.5%	63.5%	28.7%
Goshen ES	417	4.6%	23.5%	8.2%	52.3%	11.0%	49.7%	24.4%	21.2%
Laytonsville ES	354	8.8%	19.5%	7.1%	33.1%	31.6%	37.5%	14.2%	12.3%
Rosemont ES	558	5.7%	28.3%	10.8%	49.1%	5.6%	57.8%	37.6%	33.2%
Strawberry Knoll ES	409	4.9%	21.5%	10.0%	52.6%	10.8%	48.8%	17.9%	20.3%
Summit Hall ES	393	2.8%	18.1%	3.3%	74.0%	1.8%	64.9%	42.5%	29.6%
Harriet R. Tubman ES	555	4.1%	16.8%	4.7%	68.8%	5.4%	58.9%	45.4%	20.8%
Washington Grove ES	466	2.6%	27.9%	8.4%	49.1%	11.8%	48.1%	24.9%	33.1%
Elementary Cluster Total	3688	4.2%	21.4%	6.8%	58.3%	9.0%	57.7%	37.7%	18.3%
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)

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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
Gaithersburg HS	1951	2013	427,048	40.97	Yes		HSWC
Forest Oak MS	1999		132,259	41.2			LTL
Gaithersburg MS	1960	1988	157,694	22.82			LTL
Gaithersburg ES	1947	1983	94,468	8.39		3	SBHC
Goshen ES	1988		76,740	10.48			
Laytonsville ES	1951	1989	64,160	10.4			
Rosemont ES	1965	1995	88,764	8.9		4	LTL
Strawberry Knoll ES	1988		78,723	10.8	Yes	2	
Summit Hall ES	1971		68,059	10.17	Yes	16	SBHC
Harriet R. Tubman ES	2022		99,893	5.72	Yes		LTL
Washington Grove ES	1956	1984	86,266	10.66			LTL

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.