

POOLESVILLE CLUSTER

■ CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Marc Rail Communities Plan was adopted in 2019. Clarksburg, Northwest, Poolesville, and Seneca Valley clusters serve the families within the plan area. It is anticipated that the plan will take 20–30 years to build-out. The pace of construction will be market driven. Information on this plan can be found at the following link: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/upcounty/marc-rail-communities/>

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.

Poolesville Cluster Articulation

2026–2027 School Year

Poolesville HS

John Poole MS

Monocacy ES
Poolesville ES

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
Poolesville HS	Program Capacity	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498	1498
	Enrollment	1342	1326	1336	1488	1676	1562	1500	1480	1450	1425	1400	1400
	Available Space	156	172	162	10	(178)	(64)	(2)	18	48	73	98	98
	Comments		See Text										
John Poole MS	Program Capacity	473	473	473	473	473	473	473	473	473	473	473	473
	Enrollment	453	444	439	439	425	418	407	408	410	410	401	401
	Available Space	20	29	34	34	48	55	66	65	63	63	72	72
	Comments	See Text											
Monocacy ES	Program Capacity	232	232	232	232	232	232	232	232	232	232	232	
	Enrollment	162	167	155	157	155	157	156	156	155	156	153	
	Available Space	70	65	77	75	77	75	76	76	77	76	79	
	Comments	See Text											
Poolesville ES	Program Capacity	578	578	578	578	578	578	578	578	578	578	578	
	Enrollment	520	528	534	524	506	564	570	567	561	560	557	
	Available Space	58	50	44	54	72	14	8	11	17	18	21	
	Comments	See Text											
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	90%	89%	89%	99%	112%	104%	100%	99%	97%	95%	93%	93%
	HS Enrollment	1342	1326	1336	1488	1676	1562	1500	1480	1450	1425	1400	1400
	MS Utilization	96%	94%	93%	93%	90%	88%	86%	86%	87%	87%	85%	85%
	MS Enrollment	453	444	439	439	425	418	407	408	410	410	401	401
	ES Utilization	84%	86%	85%	84%	82%	89%	90%	89%	88%	88%	88%	
	ES Enrollment	682	695	689	681	661	721	726	723	716	716	710	

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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***
Poolesville HS	1342	7.9%	7.2%	39.5%	9.9%	35.4%	11.0%	1.3%	2.4%
John Poole MS	453	6.4%	9.7%	12.8%	15.7%	55.4%	19.3%	2.3%	3.4%
Monocacy ES	162	11.1%	0.0%	4.9%	19.1%	64.2%	29.5%	9.6%	4.9%
Poolesville ES	520	9.4%	6.2%	13.1%	17.1%	53.8%	16.8%	8.0%	3.6%
Elementary Cluster Total	682	9.8%	4.8%	11.1%	17.6%	56.3%	20.7%	8.8%	3.4%
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)

Schools	Special Education Services																		
	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	Quad Cluster Based	County & Regional Based
Poolesville HS	9-12	1499	67		66										1				
John Poole MS	6-8	473	24		21										1				
Monocacy ES	K-5	232	13	3		1	3	6											
Poolesville ES	K-5	578	28	3		3	8	14											

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
Poolesville HS	1953	2024	243,492	37.2			
John Poole MS	1997		85,669	20.5			
Monocacy ES	1961	1989	42,482	9.67		1	
Poolesville ES	1960	1978	64,803	12.28			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.