

WALT WHITMAN CLUSTER

■ CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Westbard Sector Plan was adopted in 2016. This plan provides for an additional 135 townhouse, 487 multi-family mid-rise, and 516 multi-family high-rise units. It is anticipated the plan will take 20–30 years to build-out. The pace of construction will be market driven. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/planwestbard/>.

PLANNING ISSUE: On March 28, 2023, the Board of Education approved the boundary study scope to create the service area for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School. The scope of the boundary study included the following high schools: Bethesda Chevy-Chase, Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, Walter Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Northwood, Wheaton, and Walt Whitman. The scope also included the following middle schools: Argyle, Eastern, A. Mario Loiederman, Newport Mill, North Bethesda, Parkland, Thomas W. Pyle, Odessa Shannon, Silver Creek, Silver Spring International, Sligo, Takoma Park, Tilden, and Westland. No elementary schools were included in the boundary study.

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As part of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP, the completion date for the Northwood High School project was delayed one-year due to an extension of the construction timeline. As a result of Northwood High School remaining at Charles W. Woodward High School, its holding facility, for one additional year, the completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027. On March 19, 2024, the Board of Education adopted a revised timeline for the boundary study.

The Board of Education took action on March 26, 2026 to approve the boundaries which will begin implementation in the 2027-2028 school year, corresponding with the reopening date of Charles W. Woodward HS and completion date of the Northwood High School classroom addition and facility upgrades.

The approved 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

Burning Tree Elementary School

PLANNING STUDY: Facility planning was conducted in FY 25 to evaluate either an ADA renovation project or a major capital project. The recommendation as part of the FY 2027-FY 2032 CIP was to design and construct a replacement school to be complete in August 2031. However the County Council delayed the project by three years and it is slated for completion in August 2034.

■ Major Capital Projects

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Burning Tree ES	Replacement	Approved	August 2034

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.

Walt Whitman Cluster Articulation

2026–2027 School Year

Walt Whitman HS

Thomas W. Pyle MS

Bannockburn ES
Bradley Hills ES
Burning Tree ES
Carderock Springs ES
Wood Acres 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
Walt Whitman HS	Program Capacity	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216	2216
	Enrollment	1919	1819	1842	1877	1986	1979	1958	1935	1895	1861	1842	1842
	Available Space	297	397	374	339	230	237	258	281	321	355	374	374
	Comments		See Text										
Thomas W. Pyle MS	Program Capacity	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499	1499
	Enrollment	1259	1290	1261	1224	1186	1164	1135	1129	1135	1130	1118	1118
	Available Space	240	209	238	275	313	335	364	370	364	369	381	381
	Comments	See Text											
Bannockburn ES	Program Capacity	394	394	394	394	394	394	394	394	394	394	394	
	Enrollment	399	373	379	385	360	363	366	363	359	360	356	
	Available Space	(5)	21	15	9	34	31	28	31	35	34	38	
	Comments	See Text											
Bradley Hills ES	Program Capacity	702	702	702	702	702	702	702	702	702	702	702	
	Enrollment	448	427	415	398	393	383	388	386	381	378	379	
	Available Space	254	275	287	304	309	319	314	316	321	324	323	
	Comments	See Text											
Burning Tree ES	Program Capacity	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	612	612	612	
	Enrollment	453	447	450	422	432	420	420	417	410	410	409	
	Available Space	(67)	(61)	(64)	(36)	(46)	(34)	(34)	(31)	202	202	203	
	Comments	See Text				Planning for MCP				MCP Complete			
Carderock Springs ES	Program Capacity	440	440	440	440	440	440	440	440	440	440	440	
	Enrollment	345	345	361	368	353	363	358	357	350	350	349	
	Available Space	95	95	79	72	87	77	82	83	90	90	91	
	Comments	See Text											
Wood Acres ES	Program Capacity	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	766	
	Enrollment	611	640	661	666	659	655	640	638	631	628	626	
	Available Space	155	126	105	100	107	111	126	128	135	138	140	
	Comments	See Text											
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	87%	82%	83%	85%	90%	89%	88%	87%	86%	84%	83%	83%
	HS Enrollment	1919	1819	1842	1877	1986	1979	1958	1935	1895	1861	1842	1842
	MS Utilization	84%	86%	84%	82%	79%	78%	76%	75%	76%	75%	75%	75%
	MS Enrollment	1259	1290	1261	1224	1186	1164	1135	1129	1135	1130	1118	1118
	ES Utilization	84%	83%	84%	83%	82%	81%	81%	80%	73%	73%	73%	
	ES Enrollment	2256	2232	2266	2239	2197	2184	2172	2161	2131	2126	2119	

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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%***
Walt Whitman HS	1919	8.5%	7.0%	15.7%	13.8%	54.9%	7.1%	2.3%	6.7%
Thomas W. Pyle MS	1259	7.9%	5.6%	16.8%	11.7%	57.8%	6.4%	3.4%	6.2%
Bannockburn ES	399	10.5%	6.0%	16.8%	8.8%	57.9%	5.7%	3.7%	7.4%
Bradley Hills ES	448	10.0%	3.3%	15.4%	10.7%	60.5%	2.9%	3.3%	3.8%
Burning Tree ES	453	7.5%	12.6%	19.4%	10.4%	49.9%	9.6%	9.0%	9.3%
Carderock Springs ES	345	14.8%	5.5%	13.6%	10.4%	55.7%	4.6%	7.4%	6.3%
Wood Acres ES	611	7.2%	7.0%	10.0%	11.8%	64.0%	9.2%	6.7%	6.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2256	9.6%	7.0%	14.7%	10.5%	58.1%	6.7%	6.1%	5.7%
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																											
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	ELC @8	LANG @8	LFI @8	SCB @8	AAC@8	AUT @8	BRIDGE @8	DHOH @8	SESES @8	EXTENSIONS @8	2e @8	PD @8	PEP@6	PEP @12	PEP @18	VISION (Elementary) @8
Walt Whitman HS	9-12	2216	105		95										1					3	2						4						
Thomas W. Pyle MS	6-8	1499	73		69										1												3						
Bannockburn ES	K-5	394	20	3		2	5	10																									
Bradley Hills ES	K-5	702	33	3		3	6	21																									
Burning Tree ES	K-5	386	24	3		4	7	4										6															
Carderock Springs ES	K-5	440	24	3		3	5	10															3										
Wood Acres ES	K-5	766	37	3		4	9	18																							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
Walt Whitman HS	1962	1992	312,270	30.7	Yes		
Thomas W. Pyle MS	1962	1993	209,464	14.3			
Bannockburn ES	1957	1988	54,234	8.3		2	
Bradley Hills ES	1951	1984	76,745	6.7	Yes		
Burning Tree ES	1958	1991	68,119	6.79	Yes	4	
Carderock Springs ES	1966	2010	75,351	9			
Wood Acres ES	1952	2002	96,358	4.78	Yes		

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.