

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster includes the adopted Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan that provides for up to 1,400 new, mostly multi-family residential units. Although the majority of the residential units can move forward at any time, build-out of all the residential units requires funding for the Purple Line to be secured. As with many sector plans in the county, build-out requires the redevelopment of many existing land uses in the area. The pace of construction will be market driven.

In May 2017, the County Council approved the Bethesda Downtown Plan, which will provide for additional multi-family residential units in downtown Bethesda and require a larger percentage (15%) of affordable units in new developments.

Student enrollment at all the schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster increased over the past few years and several addition projects opened at Bethesda, North Chevy Chase, Rosemary Hills, and Somerset elementary schools. Capacity also increased at Rock Creek Elementary School as part of the revitalization/expansion project. Silver Creek Middle School opened in September 2017, to address Grades 6–8 enrollment growth in the cluster and to provide space for the reassignment of Grade 6 students from Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools to the middle school level. To address the enrollment growth at the high school level, a classroom addition opened at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

Planning Study: Because projections indicated that enrollment would exceed capacity by more than 92 seats at Bethesda, Rock Creek Forest, and Somerset elementary schools in a previous CIP, a study was approved in November 2017, to explore all possible solutions to add elementary capacity in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster. In the Walter Johnson Cluster, a Site Selection Committee held in spring 2018, identified possible sites for a new elementary school. However, the projected space deficits at the elementary school level in the Walter Johnson Cluster were not sufficient to recommend a new elementary school for the cluster at that time. Given that the adopted CIP in November 2018, included a capacity study for the elementary schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster, the Board of Education approved expanding the capacity study to explore possible solutions that would include the elementary schools in both the Bethesda-Chevy Chase and Walter Johnson clusters. The Board of Education also included a joint site selection process for the two clusters conducted in summer 2019.

Capital Project: As part of the FY 2021–2026 CIP, the Board of Education requested several

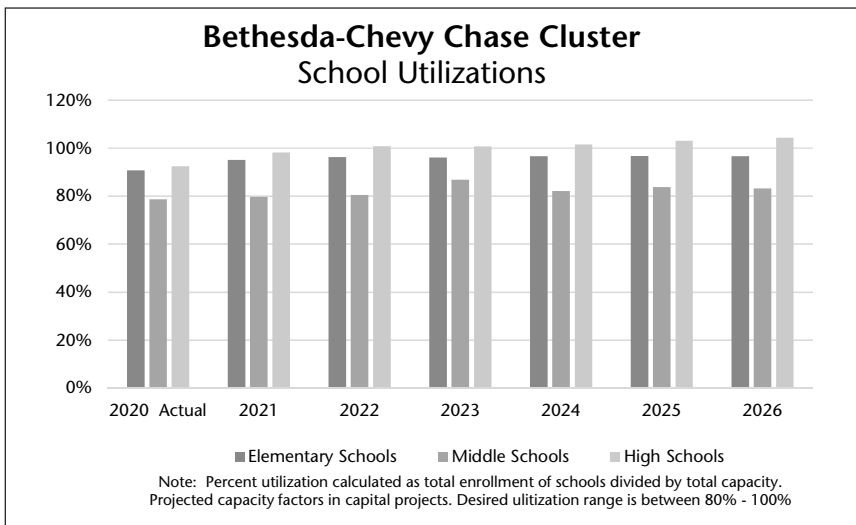
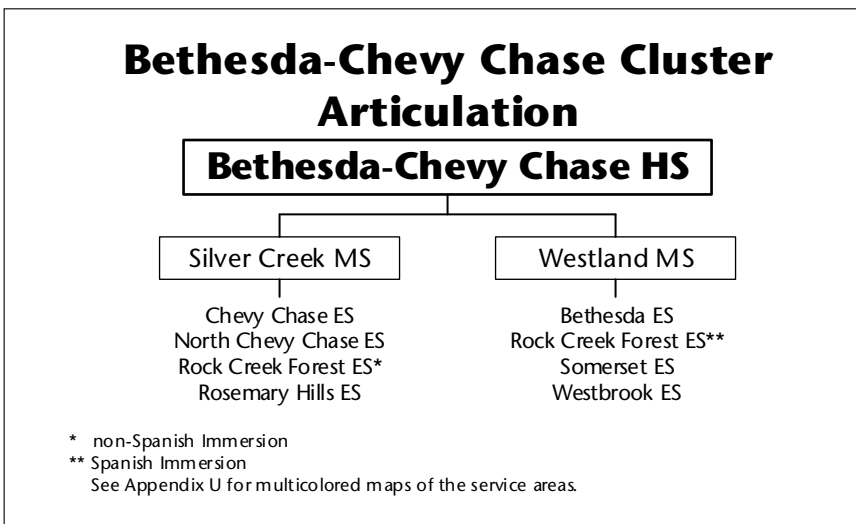
projects to address space deficits at the elementary school level. These projects included:

- An addition at Bethesda Elementary School to open in September 2023
- An addition at Westbrook Elementary School to open in September 2020
- Planning funds in the out-years of the CIP for a new Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster elementary school in the future.

However, the County Council adopted FY2021–2026 CIP included the following plans for the elementary school projects:

- Delay the Bethesda Elementary School addition project to open in September 2025
- Remove all expenditures for the Westbrook Elementary School addition project
- Maintain the planning funds in the out-years of the CIP for the new Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster elementary school in the future.

To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, as part of the amended FY2021–2026 CIP, the



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Board of Education requested to remove all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with a completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is approved for this project. This approval coincides with the boundary study conducted in spring 2021 that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary schools to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools and Board of Education action for November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff-developed option, the superintendent recommended a boundary study to include Bethesda, Somerset and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study occurred in spring 2021 with Board of Education action scheduled in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>

SCHOOLS

Bethesda Elementary School

Capital Project: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed capacity by 92 seats or more by the end of the six-year planning period. As part of the adopted FY 2021–2026 CIP, an addition was approved for this school to be completed by September 2025, two years later than the Board of Education request. As part of the Amended FY 2021–2026 CIP, the Board of Education requested to remove all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project to address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools with the completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is approved for planning to begin the architectural design for the project. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels approved in this CIP.

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff-developed option, the Board of Education approved a boundary study that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary schools to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary

study occurred in spring 2021 with Board of Education action scheduled in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>

Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Clusters Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed capacity for some of the elementary schools in these two clusters. Planning funds for a new elementary school are approved in the out-years of the CIP. A completion date for this new elementary school will be considered in a future CIP.

Chevy Chase Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

North Chevy Chase Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Rock Creek Forest Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Rosemary Hills Elementary School

Planning Study: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Somerset Elementary School

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff-developed option, the Board of Education approved a boundary study that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary school to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study occurred in spring 2021 with Board of Education action scheduled in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>

Capital Project: To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the Board of Education, as part of the amended FY 2021–2026 CIP, requested to remove all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with a completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is approved for planning to begin the architectural design for the project. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels approved in this CIP.

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Westbrook Elementary School

Planning Study: A boundary study was conducted in winter 2020 to relieve the overutilization of Somerset Elementary School. The scope of the boundary study included Somerset and Westbrook elementary schools. Instead of recommending a staff-developed option, the Board of Education approved a boundary study that included Bethesda, Somerset, and Westbrook elementary schools to address the overutilization at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools. The boundary study occurred in spring 2021 with Board of Education action scheduled in November 2021. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/BethesdaSomersetWestbrookBoundaryStudy.aspx>

Capital Project: Although the Board of Education requested to build out the classroom shell at Westbrook Elementary School to relieve space deficits at Somerset Elementary School, the County Council, as part of the approved FY 2021–2026 CIP removed all of the expenditures for the project. To address the space deficits at Bethesda and Somerset elementary schools, the Board of Education, as part of the amended FY 2021–2026 CIP, requested to remove all expenditures from the Bethesda Elementary School addition project and reallocate \$4.4 million of the \$16.7 million to reinstate the Westbrook Elementary School addition project with a completion date of September 2023. An FY 2022 appropriation is approved for planning to begin the architectural design for the project. Relocatable classrooms will be utilized until additional capacity can be added. In order for this project to be completed on this schedule, county and state funding must be provided at the levels approved in this CIP.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster ES	New School	Programmed	TBD
Westbrook ES	Build out of Classroom shell	Approved	Sept. 2023

*Approved— Project has an approved FY 2021 or FY 2022 appropriation in the Amended FY 2021–2026 CIP for planning or construction funds.

*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 FY 2022 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2021–2026 Capital Improvements Program

Schools		Actual	Projections							
		20–21	21–22	22–23	23–24	24–25	25–26	26–27	2030	2035
Bethesda–Chevy Chase HS	Program Capacity	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457	2457
	Enrollment	2270	2436	2478	2476	2495	2532	2563	2650	2675
	Available Space	187	21	(21)	(19)	(38)	(75)	(106)	(193)	(218)
	Comments									
Silver Creek MS	Program Capacity	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	935	935
	Enrollment	838	837	854	971	878	895	889	825	900
	Available Space	97	98	81	(36)	57	40	46	110	35
	Comments									
Westland MS	Program Capacity	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105
	Enrollment	764	785	788	801	798	814	809	900	925
	Available Space	341	320	317	304	307	291	296	205	180
	Comments									
Bethesda ES Grades (K–5)	Program Capacity	560	560	560	560	560	560	560		
	Enrollment	619	654	662	732	743	746	741		
	Available Space	(59)	(94)	(102)	(172)	(183)	(186)	(181)		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity	473	473	473	473	473	473	473		
	Enrollment	441	435	442	451	465	469	472		
	Available Space	32	38	31	22	8	4	1		
	Comments									
North Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity	335	335	335	335	335	335	335		
	Enrollment	225	245	240	247	254	258	260		
	Available Space	110	90	95	88	81	77	75		
	Comments									
Rock Creek Forest ES	Program Capacity	684	684	684	684	684	684	684		
	Enrollment	734	774	769	771	759	767	759		
	Available Space	(50)	(90)	(85)	(87)	(75)	(83)	(75)		
	Comments									
Rosemary Hills ES Grades (pre-K–2) Paired With Chevy Chase ES North Chevy Chase ES	Program Capacity	628	628	628	628	628	628	628		
	Enrollment	516	550	582	565	561	554	554		
	Available Space	112	78	46	63	67	74	74		
	Comments									
Somerset ES	Program Capacity	515	515	515	515	515	515	515		
	Enrollment	500	550	558	548	556	550	546		
	Available Space	15	(35)	(43)	(33)	(41)	(35)	(31)		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text								
Westbrook ES	Program Capacity	547	547	547	614	614	614	614		
	Enrollment	331	354	351	348	343	339	349		
	Available Space	216	193	196	266	271	275	265		
	Comments	Boundary Study See Text			Addition Complete					
Cluster Information	HS Utilization	92%	99%	101%	101%	102%	103%	104%	108%	109%
	HS Enrollment	2270	2436	2478	2476	2495	2532	2563	2650	2675
	MS Utilization	79%	80%	80%	87%	82%	84%	83%	85%	89%
	MS Enrollment	1602	1622	1642	1772	1676	1709	1698	1725	1825
	ES Enrollment	90%	95%	96%	96%	97%	97%	97%	98%	100%
		3366	3562	3604	3662	3681	3683	3681	3750	3820

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Facility Characteristics of Schools 2020–2021

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms	County Programs
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	1934	2001	392,833	16.4			
Silver Creek MS	2017		174,743	13.3			
Westland MS	1951	1997	146,006	25.1			
Bethesda ES	1952	1999	75,421	8.42		6	
Chevy Chase ES	1936	2000	70,976	3.8			
North Chevy Chase ES	1953	1995	65,982	7.9			
Rock Creek Forest ES	1950	2015	98,140	8		2	
Rosemary Hills ES	1956	1988	86,548	6.1			
Somerset ES	1949	2005	80,122	3.7			
Westbrook ES	1939	1990	91,359	12.5	Yes		



Silver Creek Middle School