

# BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

## CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster includes four adopted Sector Plans—Bethesda Downtown, adopted 2017; Chevy Chase Lake, adopted 2013; Greater Lyttonsville, adopted 2017; and Westbard, adopted 2016. A brief description of each is below. 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.

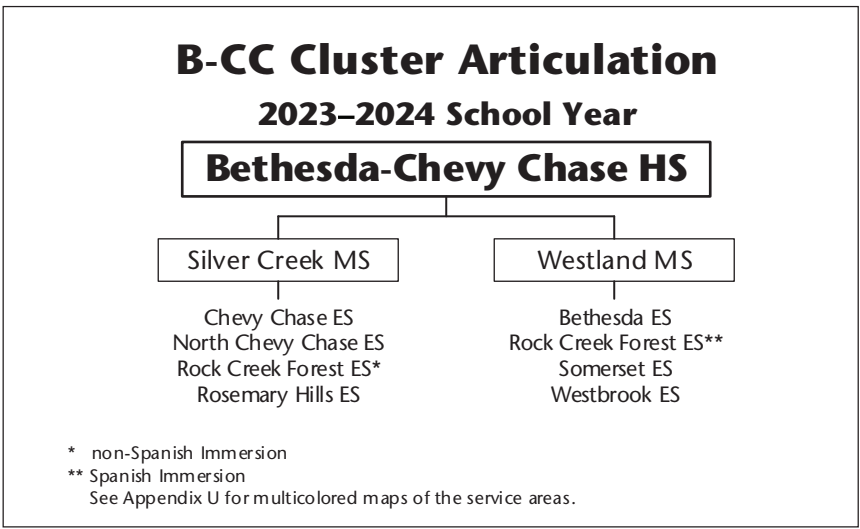
- The Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan will provide additional multi-family residential units in downtown Bethesda and require a larger percentage (15%) of affordable units in new developments. There are currently seven approved residential or mixed-use developments in the pipeline which include 4,853 mainly high-rise dwelling units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/bethesda-downtown-plan/>.
- The Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan includes up to 1,400 mostly multi-family residential units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/chevy-chase-lake/>.
- The Greater Lyttonsville Plan includes up to 3,749 new multifamily high-rise housing units and 132 townhouse units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/greater-lyttonsville/>.
- The Westbard Sector Plan could yield approximately 516 multifamily high-rise, 487 multifamily mid-rise, and 135 townhouse units. Additional information can be found at the following weblink: [https://montgomeryplanning.org/community/westbard/documents/westbard\\_for\\_web9.1.pdf](https://montgomeryplanning.org/community/westbard/documents/westbard_for_web9.1.pdf).

**Planning Study:** 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. The adopted FY2023–2028 CIP included planning funds in the out-years for this new elementary school with a TBD completion date. An FY 2025 appropriation was requested for planning funds, however,

due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted those expenditures to the out-years of the adopted FY2025–2030 CIP. Once planning is complete, construction funds, along with a completion date, will be considered in a future CIP.

**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 includes the following high schools: Bethesda Chevy-Chase, Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, Walter Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Northwood, Wheaton, and Walt Whitman. The scope also includes 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 are included in the boundary study.

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. Information regarding this boundary study is available on the MCPS website at the following link: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/woodwardhsboundarystudy/>



**BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER**

**SCHOOLS**

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School**

**Planning Issue:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

**Charles W. Woodward High School**

**Planning Issue:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

**Capital Project:** To address the urgent space needs at Walter Johnson High School and the Downcounty Consortium high schools, an FY 2021 appropriation for construction was approved for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School. The Board of Education approved that Charles W. Woodward High School be used as a holding school, starting in August 2023, for Northwood High School. An FY 2023 appropriation was requested for construction cost increases and the balance of construction funds. However, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council, in the adopted FY2023-2028 CIP, delayed this project one year. The additional expenditures were approved, but the scheduled completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School was August 2026. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction cost increases. As part of the Board of Education’s approved FY2025–2030 CIP, the construction schedule for the Northwood High School project was extended one year, with a completion date of August 2027. Since Charles W. Woodward High School is the holding facility for Northwood High School, the completion date for the reopening of Charles W. Woodward High School is August 2027. Due to the continued effects of Covid-19 pandemic on construction cost increases, the budget for this project was insufficient to complete the construction scope as originally intended. Therefore, to move forward with the construction and remain on schedule, the Board of Education approved, as part of the FY2025–2030 CIP, a Phase III for this project that will include the construction of the auditorium. Funding to construct the auditorium will be considered in the next CIP budget cycle.

**Silver Creek Middle School**

**Planning Issue:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

**Westland Middle School**

**Planning Issue:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

**Bethesda Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Clusters Elementary School**

**Planning Issue:** 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. An FY 2025 appropriation was requested for planning funds, however, due to fiscal constraints, the

County Council shifted those expenditures to the out-years of the adopted FY2025–2030 CIP. Once planning is complete, construction funds, along with a completion date, will be considered in a future CIP.

**Chevy Chase Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Study.

**North Chevy Chase Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Study.

**Rock Creek Forest Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Study.

**Rosemary Hills Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Study.

**Somerset Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Study.

**Westbrook Elementary School**

**Planning Study:** See text under Cluster Planning Study.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Charles W. Woodward HS	Reopening	Delayed	August 2024/2027
Bethesda-Chevy Chase/Walter Johnson Cluster ES	New School	Programmed	TBD

**Approved**—Project has an approved FY 2025 appropriation in the FY 2025–2030 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.

# BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

## Projected Enrollment and Space Availability Effects of the Adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP and Non-Capital Actions

Schools			Actual	Projections							
			23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	2033	2038
Bethesda–Chevy Chase HS	Program Capacity		2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475	2475
	Enrollment		2368	2347	2362	2324	2307	2321	2342	2445	2445
	Available Space		107	128	113	151	168	154	133	30	30
	Comments		See Text								
Charles W. Woodward HS	Program Capacity						2249	2249	2249	2249	2249
	Enrollment						0	0	0	0	0
	Available Space						2249	2249	2249	2249	2249
	Comments		See Text				Opens				
Silver Creek MS	Program Capacity		915	915	915	915	915	915	915	915	
	Enrollment		766	775	771	747	749	743	736	760	760
	Available Space		149	140	144	168	166	172	179	155	155
	Comments		See Text								
Westland MS	Program Capacity		1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	1064	
	Enrollment		865	848	834	844	859	865	870	865	865
	Available Space		199	216	230	220	205	199	194	199	199
	Comments		See Text								
Bethesda ES Grades (K–5)	Program Capacity		561	561	561	561	561	561	561		
	Enrollment		584	606	614	591	601	590	584		
	Available Space		(23)	(45)	(53)	(30)	(40)	(29)	(23)		
	Comments										
Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity		483	483	483	483	483	483	483		
	Enrollment		427	452	503	506	509	492	476		
	Available Space		56	31	(20)	(23)	(26)	(9)	7		
	Comments										
North Chevy Chase ES Grades (3–5) Paired With Rosemary Hills ES	Program Capacity		374	374	374	374	374	374	374		
	Enrollment		243	247	259	262	264	251	237		
	Available Space		131	127	115	112	110	123	137		
	Comments										
Rock Creek Forest ES	Program Capacity		771	771	771	771	771	771	771		
	Enrollment		669	676	677	669	677	687	678		
	Available Space		102	95	94	102	94	84	93		
	Comments										
Rosemary Hills ES Grades (pre-K–2) Paired With Chevy Chase ES North Chevy Chase ES	Program Capacity		650	650	650	650	650	650	650		
	Enrollment		533	522	519	523	530	552	551		
	Available Space		117	128	131	127	120	98	99		
	Comments										
Somerset ES	Program Capacity		549	549	549	549	549	549	549		
	Enrollment		303	317	382	383	381	373	369		
	Available Space		246	232	167	166	168	176	180		
	Comments										
Westbrook ES	Program Capacity		648	648	648	648	648	648	648		
	Enrollment		513	499	502	506	520	524	525		
	Available Space		135	149	146	142	128	124	123		
	Comments										
Cluster Information	HS Utilization		96%	95%	95%	94%	93%	94%	95%	99%	99%
	HS Enrollment		2368	2347	2362	2324	2307	2321	2342	2445	2445
	MS Utilization		82%	82%	81%	80%	81%	81%	81%	82%	82%
	MS Enrollment		1631	1623	1605	1591	1608	1608	1606	1625	1625
	ES Utilization		81%	82%	86%	85%	86%	86%	85%		
	ES Enrollment		3272	3319	3456	3440	3482	3469	3420		



## BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

### Facility Characteristics of Schools 2023–2024

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized/ Maj. Cap. Proj.	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms*	County Programs
Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS	1934	2001	392,833	16.36			
Silver Creek MS	2017		174,743	13.3			
Westland MS	1951	1997	146,006	25.1			
Bethesda ES	1952	1999	75,421	7.93		4	
Chevy Chase ES	1936	2000	70,976	3.78			
North Chevy Chase ES	1953	1995	65,982	7.9			
Rock Creek Forest ES	1950	2015	98,140	7.96		2	
Rosemary Hills ES	1956	1988	87,298	6.07			
Somerset ES	1949	2005	80,122	3.7			
Westbrook ES	1939	1990	91,359	12.46	Yes		

\*See Appendix H for relocatable use.