

DAMASCUS CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

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 the 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 middle schools for implementation in the 2029-2030 school year.

SCHOOLS

Damascus High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Capital Project: A Major Capital Project was approved to address various building systems and programmatic needs for this school. The Board of Education, in the requested FY 2021–2026 CIP, included expenditures in FY 2022 to continue the planning and design of this major capital project with a completion date of August 2025, the County Council delayed the expenditures by one-year. An FY 2023 appropriation was approved to begin the design of this Major Capital Project. An FY 2024 appropriation was approved for construction funds. Due to fiscal constraints, the County

Council shifted the expenditures for the Damascus High School Major Capital Project to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025–2030 CIP with a “to be determined” completion date. The approved FY 2027-2032 CIP includes the design and construction of a major capital project, with design to begin in FY 2027. This replacement project will be built with additional capacity to relieve overutilization in adjacent clusters. The approved completion date for the building is August 2031, followed by sitework completion in August 2032. Students and staff will remain on-site during construction.

John T. Baker Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Hallie Wells Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Damascus Elementary School

Capital Project: As part of the adopted FY 2023–2028 CIP, this school was approved for a feasibility study for a major capital project. An FY 2025 appropriation was approved to begin the planning and design for this project. However, based on the ranking with the new CIP prioritization criteria Damascus ES is not currently recommended in this CIP and a completion date for this project will be considered in a future CIP.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

School	Project	Project Status*	Date of Completion
Damascus HS	Replacement	Approved	August 2031 for the building and August 2032 for the site

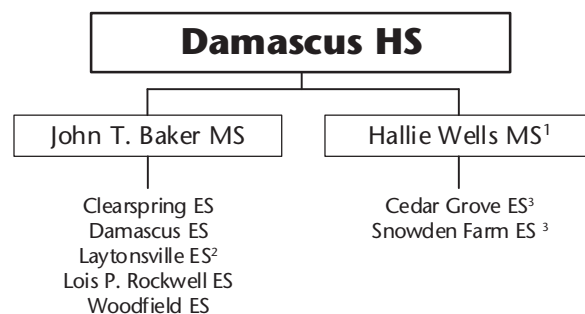
Approved—Project has an approved FY 2027 appropriation in the FY 2027–2032 CIP for planning or construction funds.

Delayed—Project completion date has shifted since Board of Education request.

Programmed—Project has expenditures programmed in a future year of the CIP for planning and/or construction funds.

Damascus Cluster Articulation

2025–2026 School Year



¹ Wilson Wims ES articulates to Hallie Wells MS and then to Clarksburg HS.

² Most of Laytonsville ES articulates to Gaithersburg MS and Gaithersburg HS.

³ Portions of Cedar Grove ES and Snowden Farm ES also articulate to Clarksburg HS. See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

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Projected Enrollment and Space Availability

Effects of the Adopted FY2027 Capital Budget and the FY2027-2032 Capital Improvements Program

Schools			Official	Projections							
			25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	2035	2040
Damascus HS		Program Capacity	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	1543	2250	2250	2250
		Enrollment	1451	1477	1701	1688	1643	1643	1971	2000	2000
		Available Space	92	66	(158)	(145)	(100)	(100)	279	250	250
		Comments	See Text	Planning for MCP					Building Complete		
John T. Baker MS		Program Capacity	741	741	741	741	741	741	741	741	741
		Enrollment	819	821	667	660	644	625	615	630	630
		Available Space	(78)	(80)	74	81	97	116	126	111	111
		Comments	See Text								
Hallie Wells MS		Program Capacity	969	969	969	969	969	969	969	969	969
		Enrollment	901	862	898	886	866	830	813	820	820
		Available Space	68	107	71	83	103	139	156	149	149
		Comments	See Text								
Cedar Grove ES		Program Capacity	419	419	419	419	419	419	419		
		Enrollment	314	297	284	279	278	269	268		
		Available Space	105	122	135	140	141	150	151		
		Comments									
Clearspring ES	CSR	Program Capacity	557	557	557	557	557	557	557		
		Enrollment	529	537	523	510	502	501	495		
		Available Space	28	20	34	47	55	56	62		
		Comments									
Damascus ES	CSR	Program Capacity	269	269	269	269	269	269	269		
		Enrollment	338	348	340	336	332	336	325		
		Available Space	(69)	(79)	(71)	(67)	(63)	(67)	(56)		
		Comments									
Lois P. Rockwell ES		Program Capacity	555	555	555	555	555	555	555		
		Enrollment	477	458	443	411	404	393	394		
		Available Space	78	97	112	144	151	162	161		
		Comments									
Snowden Farm ES		Program Capacity	763	763	763	763	763	763	763		
		Enrollment	538	503	466	451	442	435	439		
		Available Space	225	260	297	312	321	328	324		
		Comments									
Woodfield ES		Program Capacity	375	375	375	375	375	375	375		
		Enrollment	280	269	257	246	242	240	242		
		Available Space	95	106	118	129	133	135	133		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	94%	96%	110%	109%	106%	106%	88%	89%	89%
		HS Enrollment	1451	1477	1701	1688	1643	1643	1971	2000	2000
		MS Utilization	101%	98%	92%	90%	88%	85%	84%	85%	85%
		MS Enrollment	1720	1683	1565	1546	1510	1455	1428	1450	1450
		ES Utilization	84%	82%	79%	76%	75%	74%	74%		
		ES Enrollment	2476	2412	2313	2233	2200	2174	2163		

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Demographic Characteristics of Schools

Schools	2025-2026								2024-2025
	Total Enrollment	Two or more races %	Black or Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ELD%*	Mobility Rate%***
Damascus HS	1451	7.6%	13.2%	11.3%	30.6%	37.1%	29.1%	8.3%	8.4%
John T. Baker MS	819	7.0%	13.1%	7.4%	36.0%	36.1%	38.0%	10.6%	7.3%
Hallie Wells MS	901	4.6%	22.3%	41.4%	13.1%	18.3%	21.6%	5.0%	8.4%
Cedar Grove ES	314	5.4%	14.3%	38.2%	19.7%	21.3%	28.0%	10.8%	17.0%
Clearspring ES	529	10.4%	15.3%	15.3%	30.1%	28.9%	40.8%	13.0%	7.8%
Damascus ES	338	4.7%	12.7%	6.8%	39.9%	35.5%	43.5%	21.3%	23.9%
Lois P. Rockwell ES	477	7.1%	16.1%	8.4%	29.8%	37.9%	34.0%	9.2%	11.1%
Snowden Farm ES	538	6.3%	22.3%	44.6%	12.8%	13.9%	22.7%	10.2%	20.6%
Woodfield ES	280	8.6%	15.0%	9.6%	30.4%	36.1%	30.7%	9.6%	12.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2476	7.3%	16.5%	21.4%	26.3%	28.2%	33.2%	12.2%	12.5%
Elementary County Total	69536	6.0%	21.5%	12.9%	36.3%	23.0%	40.3%	24.7%	14.6%

*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 2024–2025 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 2025–2026)

Special Education Services																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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Facility Characteristics of Schools 2025–2026

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized/ Maj. Cap. Proj.	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms*	County Programs
Damascus HS	1950	1978	235,986	32.66			
John T. Baker MS	1971		120,532	21.65	Yes	2	
Hallie Wells MS	2016		150,089	22.37			
Cedar Grove ES	1960	1987	57,037	10.1			
Clearspring ES	1988		77,535	10	Yes	2	
Damascus ES	1934	1980	53,239	9.4		6	
Lois P. Rockwell ES	1992		75,520	10.57			
Snowden Farm ES	2019		92,366	9.79			
Woodfield ES	1962	1985	53,212	10			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.