

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

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Poolesville Cluster Articulation

2025–2026 School Year

Poolesville HS

John Poole MS

Monocacy ES
Poolesville ES

See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

POOLESVILLE CLUSTER

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
Poolesville HS		Program Capacity	1508	1508	1508	1508	1508	1508	1508	1508	1508
		Enrollment	1377	1376	1435	1466	1450	1451	1460	1475	1475
		Available Space	131	132	73	42	58	57	48	33	33
		Comments	See Text								
John Poole MS		Program Capacity	478	478	478	478	478	478	478	478	478
		Enrollment	440	454	443	437	431	417	407	420	420
		Available Space	38	24	35	41	47	61	71	58	58
		Comments	See Text								
Monocacy ES		Program Capacity	229	229	229	229	229	229	229		
		Enrollment	166	168	174	164	169	166	167		
		Available Space	63	61	55	65	60	63	62		
		Comments									
Poolesville ES		Program Capacity	571	571	571	571	571	571	571		
		Enrollment	548	555	581	590	591	586	593		
		Available Space	23	16	(10)	(19)	(20)	(15)	(22)		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	91%	91%	95%	97%	96%	96%	97%	98%	98%
		HS Enrollment	1377	1376	1435	1466	1450	1451	1460	1475	1475
		MS Utilization	92%	95%	93%	91%	90%	87%	85%	88%	88%
		MS Enrollment	440	454	443	437	431	417	407	420	420
		ES Utilization	89%	90%	94%	94%	95%	94%	95%		
		ES Enrollment	714	723	755	754	760	752	760		

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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%***
Poolesville HS	1377	7.3%	7.8%	37.9%	10.4%	36.3%	11.0%	1.3%	2.2%
John Poole MS	440	6.8%	10.0%	12.3%	14.1%	56.8%	19.3%	2.3%	4.5%
Monocacy ES	166	7.8%	0.0%	6.0%	21.7%	63.9%	29.5%	9.6%	0.0%
Poolesville ES	548	8.4%	7.7%	13.1%	16.6%	53.8%	16.8%	8.0%	10.4%
Elementary Cluster Total	714	8.3%	6.0%	11.5%	17.8%	56.2%	19.7%	8.4%	7.2%
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)

Program Capacity Table (School Year 2025–2026)		Special Education Services																														
		Quad Cluster Based	County & Regional Based																													
			Grades Served	Capacity (HS @90% MS@85%)	Total Rooms	Support Rooms	Regular Secondary @25	Regular Elementary @23	CSR Grades 1–2 @18	Pre–K @20	Pre–K @40	HS @20	CSR KIND @18	KIND @22	ELD @15	METS @15	OTHER	ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	AAC@7	AUT @6	BRIDGE @10	DHOH @7	SESES @10	EXTENSIONS @6	2e @13	PD @7	PEP@6	PEP @12	PEP @18
Schools																																
Poolesville HS	9-12	1508	67		67																											
John Poole MS	6-8	478	24		22																2											
Monocacy ES	K-5	229	13	3		9						1																				
Poolesville ES	K-5	571	28	3		21						4																				

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
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.