

RICHARD MONTGOMERY CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Rockville Town Center Master Plan was adopted in January 2026 and provides a long-range document that establishes a vision for future growth and development.

The City of Rockville's 2040 Comprehensive Plan describes the broad vision for the city's future. Also of a visionary nature, the numbers of potential housing units mentioned in this plan are not included in the MCPS enrollment projections until site-specific development applications have been filed and are in the pipeline.

The City of Rockville adopted the Rockville Pike Neighborhood Plan in March 2016. Additional residential units, mostly multi-family units, are allowed in the Rockville Pike corridor. This development would occur on either side of Rockville Pike, from the intersection at Veirs Mill Road at the north to Rollins Avenue in the south. Most of this area is in the Richard Montgomery Cluster. The plan will require the redevelopment of existing land uses and require significant roadway improvements. It is anticipated that the plan will take 20 to 30 years to build-out and the pace of construction will be market driven. In addition, there are two master plans/amendments that include portions of the cluster—The Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment, adopted in 2021 and The Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan, adopted in 2019.

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.

SCHOOLS

Richard Montgomery High School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Robert Frost Middle School

Planning Study: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed 89 seats by the end of the six-year planning period. Therefore, enrollment will continue to be monitored.

Julius West Middle School

Planning Issue: See text under Cluster Planning Issues.

Cashell Elementary School

Planning Study: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed 92 seats by the end of the six-year planning period. Therefore, enrollment will continue to be monitored.

Mill Towne Creek Elementary School

Planning Study: Projections indicate that enrollment will exceed 193 seats by the end of the six-year planning period. Therefore, enrollment will continue to be monitored.

Twinbrook 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. Facility planning was completed in FY 25 however based on the rankings with the new CIP prioritization criteria design and construction funds will be recommended as part of a future CIP.

Richard Montgomery Cluster Articulation

2025–2026 School Year

Richard Montgomery HS

Julius West MS

Beall ES
College Gardens ES
Ritchie Park ES
Bayard Rustin ES
Twinbrook ES

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
Richard Montgomery HS		Program Capacity	2220	2220	2220	2220	2220	2220	2220	2220	2220
		Enrollment	2384	2351	1982	1997	1980	1997	1983	2000	2000
		Available Space	(164)	(131)	238	223	240	223	237	220	220
		Comments	See Text								
Julius West MS		Program Capacity	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432	1432
		Enrollment	1283	1275	1320	1360	1346	1302	1273	1280	1280
		Available Space	149	157	112	72	86	130	159	152	152
		Comments	See Text								
Beall ES		Program Capacity	663	663	663	663	663	663	663		
		Enrollment	441	461	448	449	449	447	447		
		Available Space	222	202	215	214	214	216	216		
		Comments									
College Gardens ES		Program Capacity	702	702	702	702	702	702	702		
		Enrollment	452	439	435	432	417	426	426		
		Available Space	250	263	267	270	285	276	276		
		Comments									
Ritchie Park ES		Program Capacity	411	411	411	411	411	411	411		
		Enrollment	348	338	339	330	323	319	318		
		Available Space	63	73	72	81	88	92	93		
		Comments									
Bayard Rustin ES	CSR	Program Capacity	682	682	682	682	682	682	682		
		Enrollment	726	716	682	676	666	667	670		
		Available Space	(44)	(34)	0	6	16	15	12		
		Comments									
Twinbrook ES	CSR	Program Capacity	596	596	596	596	596	596	596		
		Enrollment	437	430	436	431	427	428	421		
		Available Space	159	166	160	165	169	168	175		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	107%	106%	89%	90%	89%	90%	89%	90%	90%
		HS Enrollment	2384	2351	1982	1997	1980	1997	1983	2000	2000
		MS Utilization	90%	89%	92%	95%	94%	91%	89%	89%	89%
		MS Enrollment	1283	1275	1320	1360	1346	1302	1273	1280	1280
		ES Utilization	78%	78%	77%	76%	75%	75%	75%		
		ES Enrollment	2404	2046	2001	1988	1959	1968	1964		

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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%***
Richard Montgomery HS	2384	6.5%	15.3%	24.0%	26.0%	27.9%	28.4%	13.0%	14.7%
Julius West MS	1283	5.5%	14.7%	17.2%	33.9%	28.5%	39.1%	17.6%	12.4%
Beall ES	441	10.9%	9.3%	12.7%	28.1%	38.8%	24.3%	15.0%	11.2%
College Gardens ES	452	13.1%	25.4%	16.2%	20.4%	24.6%	38.9%	12.6%	19.3%
Ritchie Park ES	348	6.3%	13.5%	19.8%	12.9%	46.6%	13.5%	5.2%	8.1%
Bayard Rustin ES	726	12.0%	12.8%	24.1%	31.3%	19.6%	43.3%	27.5%	17.5%
Twinbrook ES	437	4.8%	12.4%	10.1%	62.9%	9.8%	54.9%	41.9%	32.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2404	9.9%	14.6%	17.3%	31.7%	26.2%	36.8%	21.8%	14.5%
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)

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																																
Richard Montgomery HS	9-12	2220	103		95								2	1										1	4							
Julius West MS	6-8	1432	70		65								1	1										3								
Beall ES	HS-5	663	33	3		22			1	1		3						2			1											
College Gardens ES	HS-5	702	36	3		26		1				3									3											
Ritchie Park ES	K-5	411	21	3		15						3																				
Bayard Rustin ES	K-5	682	38	4		14	12				6																				2	
Twinbrook ES	HS-5	596	34	5		14	9	1		1	4																					

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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
Richard Montgomery HS	1942	2007	311,500	29.05		9	
Julius West MS	1961	1995	182,617	21.3			
Beall ES	1954	1991	79,477	8.4	Yes		
College Gardens ES	1967	2008	96,986	7.9	Yes		
Ritchie Park ES	1966	1997	58,500	9.2			
Bayard Rustin ES	2018		97,397	10.9		2	
Twinbrook ES	1952	1986	79,818	10.45			

*See Appendix H for relocatable use.