

WALT WHITMAN CLUSTER

CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES

The Westbard Sector Plan was adopted in 2016. This plan provides for an additional 135 townhouse, 487 multi-family mid-rise, and 516 multi-family high-rise units. It is anticipated the plan will take 20–30 years to build-out. The pace of construction will be market driven. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/downcounty/planwestbard/>.

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

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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.

The Board of Education took action on March 26, 2026 to approve the boundaries which will begin implementation in the 2027-2028 school year, corresponding with the reopening date of Charles W. Woodward HS and completion date of the Northwood High School classroom addition and facility upgrades.

The approved 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

Walt Whitman 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 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 FY 2023-2028 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 FY 2025–2030 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. As part of the FY 2025–2030 CIP the Board of Education approved Phase III for this project that includes the construction of the auditorium.

Walt Whitman Cluster Articulation

2025–2026 School Year

Walt Whitman HS

Thomas W. Pyle MS

Bannockburn ES
Bradley Hills ES
Burning Tree ES
Carderock Springs ES
Wood Acres ES

See Appendix V for multicolored maps of the service areas.

Thomas W. Pyle Middle School

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

Burning Tree Elementary School

Planning Study: Facility planning was conducted in FY 25 to evaluate either an ADA renovation project or a major capital project. The recommendation as part of the FY 2027-FY 2032 CIP was to design and construct a replacement school to be complete in August 2031. However the County Council delayed the project by three years and it is slated for completion in August 2034.

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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
Walt Whitman HS		Program Capacity	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218	2218
		Enrollment	2002	1967	1847	1866	1836	1846	1835	1850	1850
		Available Space	216	251	371	352	382	372	383	368	368
		Comments	See Text								
Thomas W. Pyle MS		Program Capacity	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488	1488
		Enrollment	1232	1252	1288	1257	1244	1204	1178	1180	1180
		Available Space	256	236	200	231	244	284	310	308	308
		Comments	See Text								
Bannockburn ES		Program Capacity	388	388	388	388	388	388	388		
		Enrollment	402	401	376	390	387	373	381		
		Available Space	(14)	(13)	12	(2)	1	15	7		
		Comments									
Bradley Hills ES		Program Capacity	679	679	679	679	679	679	679		
		Enrollment	480	467	451	451	434	438	432		
		Available Space	199	212	228	228	245	241	247		
		Comments									
Burning Tree ES		Program Capacity	388	388	388	388	388	388	388		
		Enrollment	467	473	480	494	473	487	487		
		Available Space	(79)	(85)	(92)	(106)	(85)	(99)	(99)		
		Comments	See Text					Planning for MCP			
Carderock Springs ES		Program Capacity	429	429	429	429	429	429	429		
		Enrollment	349	337	339	343	347	327	334		
		Available Space	80	92	90	86	82	102	95		
		Comments									
Wood Acres ES		Program Capacity	749	749	749	749	749	749	749		
		Enrollment	585	597	595	600	594	588	578		
		Available Space	164	152	154	149	155	161	171		
		Comments									
Cluster Information		HS Utilization	90%	89%	83%	84%	83%	83%	83%	83%	83%
		HS Enrollment	2002	1967	1847	1866	1836	1846	1835	1850	1850
		MS Utilization	83%	84%	87%	84%	84%	81%	79%	79%	79%
		MS Enrollment	1232	1252	1288	1257	1244	1204	1178	1180	1180
		ES Utilization	87%	86%	85%	87%	85%	84%	84%		
		ES Enrollment	2283	2275	2241	2278	2235	2213	2212		

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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%***
Walt Whitman HS	2002	8.8%	6.6%	15.7%	13.4%	55.3%	7.1%	2.3%	6.2%
Thomas W. Pyle MS	1232	8.7%	5.0%	16.9%	12.9%	56.4%	6.4%	3.4%	6.7%
Bannockburn ES	402	10.9%	4.7%	15.7%	9.0%	59.7%	5.7%	3.7%	6.3%
Bradley Hills ES	480	9.0%	2.9%	15.4%	10.4%	62.1%	2.9%	3.3%	5.0%
Burning Tree ES	467	7.5%	10.7%	21.6%	9.9%	50.1%	9.6%	9.0%	14.2%
Carderock Springs ES	349	13.5%	5.4%	14.3%	10.3%	56.4%	4.6%	7.4%	7.2%
Wood Acres ES	585	6.0%	6.7%	9.6%	12.5%	65.3%	9.2%	6.7%	5.8%
Elementary Cluster Total	2283	8.9%	6.2%	15.1%	10.6%	59.2%	6.7%	6.0%	6.5%
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)

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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
Walt Whitman HS	1962	1992	312,270	30.7	Yes		
Thomas W. Pyle MS	1962	1993	209,464	14.3			
Bannockburn ES	1957	1988	54,234	8.3		2	
Bradley Hills ES	1951	1984	76,745	6.7	Yes		
Burning Tree ES	1958	1991	68,119	6.79	Yes	4	
Carderock Springs ES	1966	2010	75,351	9			
Wood Acres ES	1952	2002	96,358	4.78	Yes		

**See Appendix H for relocatable use.*