

MEMORANDUM

March 14, 2013

TO: Education Committee

FROM:  Keith Levchenko, Senior Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: **Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS): Enrollment and Demographic Trends**

The Education Committee typically receives an annual update from MCPS on enrollment trends prior to the Council's CIP and Operating Budget review each spring.

Bruce Crispell, Director of Long-Range Planning for MCPS, will provide the Committee with a summary presentation (slides attached on ©1-14) on enrollment and demographic trends and forecasts.

Committee Chair Ervin has also asked MCPS to discuss how it allocates teachers based on projected and actual enrollments, especially with regard to small elementary schools where teacher reallocations can have significant programmatic impacts.

Enrollment

Enrollment changes are one of the biggest drivers of both the Operating Budget and CIP for MCPS. From a CIP perspective, enrollment increases drive the need for additional classrooms and core space improvements. On the Operating side, changes in enrollment (up or down) in schools throughout the County can result in the need to add or decrease the number of teaching stations at a particular school. Some summary information is noted below:

- Official enrollment for the 2012-13 schoolyear is 148,779 students. This is 2,282 students more than 2011-12 official enrollment and 239 fewer students than was projected for 2012-13 at this time last year.
- This year marks the 5th straight year of increases in total enrollment (see ©6).
- Elementary enrollment is expected to climb and then plateau over the six-year period. Middle school enrollment is expected to climb steadily during the six-year period as the

bump in elementary school enrollment ages out. High school enrollment is expected to be flat and then grow again as the bump in middle school enrollment ages into high school in the latter part of the six-year period.

- Although 2011 births were down slightly from 2010 (13,101 and 13,273 respectively), these numbers have remained at historically high levels over the past decade and are a major reason for the many years of increases in elementary school enrollment.
- Overall enrollment is expected to climb to 159,433 (a gain of more than 10,654 students) through schoolyear 2018-19.

These upward enrollment trends have resulted in significant immediate and future space needs throughout the County. Last year's FY13-18 CIP discussion focused on many school addition projects, as well as school modernization projects that included increases in capacity, to address these and other programmatic needs.¹ For the FY13-18 CIP amendment discussion this year, MCPS has not recommended any new capacity projects. *However, depending on overall CIP spending affordability issues, the Council may need to consider deferring one or more approved projects as part of its CIP reconciliation process later this spring. These issues will be looked at in more detail during a future Education Committee worksession.*

Subdivision Staging Policy (SSP) Schools Test

The schools test within the Subdivision Staging Policy (SSP) is an annual exercise which looks at projected enrollment and capacity at the beginning of the 6th schoolyear of the CIP period (August 2018 for the Council's Spring 2013 review of amendments to the FY13-18 CIP) in 25 high school clusters at each school level (elementary, middle, and high school). For purposes of the test, the Northeast Consortium schools and the Downcounty Consortium schools are divided into the home high school areas.

There are three categories into which a cluster may fall within the school test:

- **Cluster utilization is at 105 percent or below at each of the three school levels:** The cluster passes the test.
- **Cluster utilization is between 105 percent and 120% at one or more school levels:** The Planning Board may approve a residential subdivision if the developer commits to pay a school facilities payment.
- **Cluster utilization is above 120% at one or more school levels:** The Planning Board must not approve a residential subdivision in that cluster during the upcoming fiscal year.

Last year's test (August 2017 test year), based on the Approved FY13-18 CIP, resulted in no cluster being under moratorium, although a number of clusters exceeded the 105% (school

¹ Also, MCPS is still working to address the capacity needs of programmatic initiatives (such as class size reduction and the expansion of Full-Day Kindergarten countywide). Many schools accommodated these programs initially with relocatable classrooms. As MCPS plans additions and modernizations, these programmatic needs are assumed to be addressed through permanent classroom space.

facility payment) threshold (see summary chart on ©12). One cluster, B-CC (high school level), would have been in moratorium but for the approval by the Council of a “placeholder” project.

“Placeholder” projects include expenditures that assume the construction of sufficient classroom space to keep a cluster below the 120% moratorium threshold for the SSP test year. These projects are generic in that future planning, review, and approval of a specific project (or projects) is still needed. The Council utilizes placeholder projects only in cases where MCPS has the capability to plan, design, and build the required space in the time window before the SSP test period.

With regard to this year’s SSP test (August 2018 test year), the summary chart on ©13 shows which clusters pass the test and which would fall within the school facility payment requirement. No clusters fall into moratorium, based on the FY13-18 Approved CIP. *As noted earlier, if the Council considers any deferrals to approved MCPS projects as part of CIP reconciliation this spring, the implications for how potential changes would affect the SSP Schools Test will need to be reviewed.*

Racial and Economic Diversity

As discussed at a similar presentation last year, MCPS’ school enrollment continues to get more diverse racially/ethnically and economically.

- MCPS’ student population became a “majority minority” population in the 2000-01 schoolyear, well ahead of the County as a whole.
- In the current schoolyear (see ©7), White students still make up the largest single racial group but are only about 1/3 (33%) of the overall school population. Hispanics are second at 26.7%, followed by Blacks at 21.3%, Asians at 14.3 percent and other racial designations making up the final 4.6%.²
- As noted last year, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) participation has also steadily increased over the past decade to nearly 19,200 students (13.1% of enrollment) in 2011.
- With regard to economic diversity, Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) rates have increased substantially over the past six years to over 32% (47,365 students) of the overall student population. MCPS’ FARMS program has more participants than a number of DC area and other Maryland County school systems’ total student populations.

These demographic trends make the school system of 2012-13 far different than it was even a decade ago, with MCPS needing to continue to adapt its programs and budget accordingly.

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² As noted in last year’s enrollment/demographic presentation, over the past ten years, the Hispanic student population has grown the fastest. The Asian and Black populations have remained about the same share, and the White population share has been steadily declining.

Montgomery County Public Schools
Enrollment Trends

Prepared for the
Montgomery County Council Education Committee

March 18, 2013

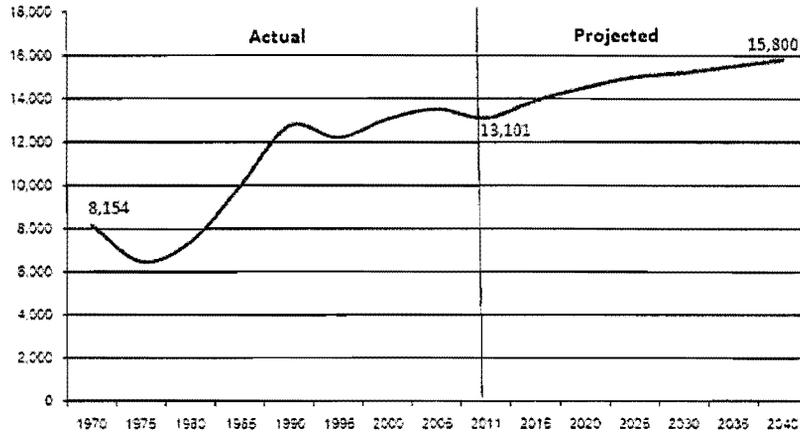


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County Population Forecast
by Age Groups

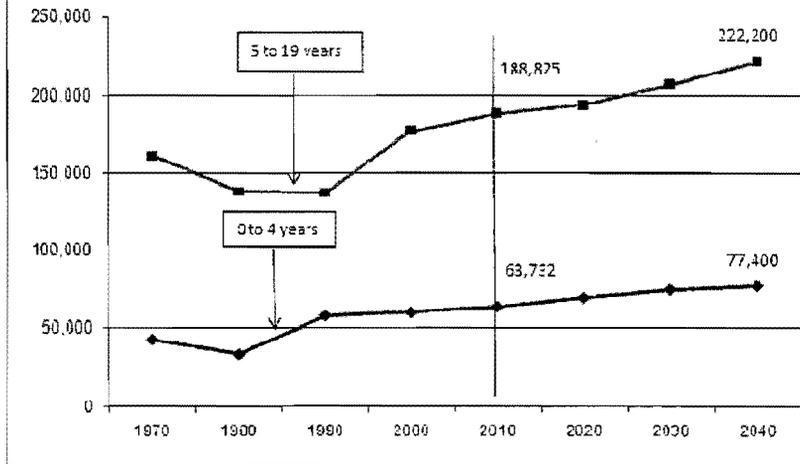
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**Montgomery County Resident Births:
Actual 1970 to 2011, and Projected to 2040**



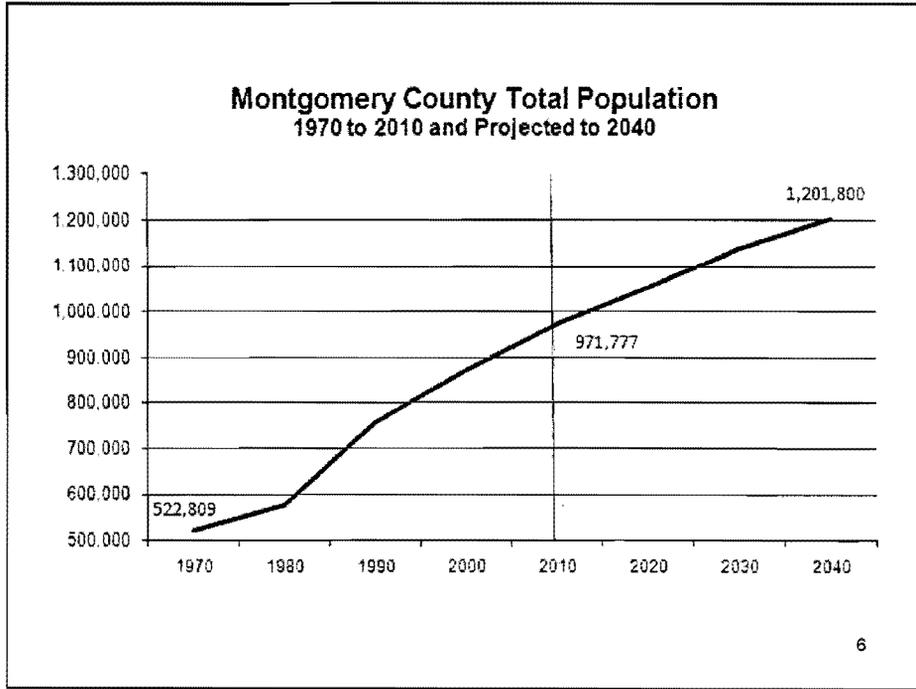
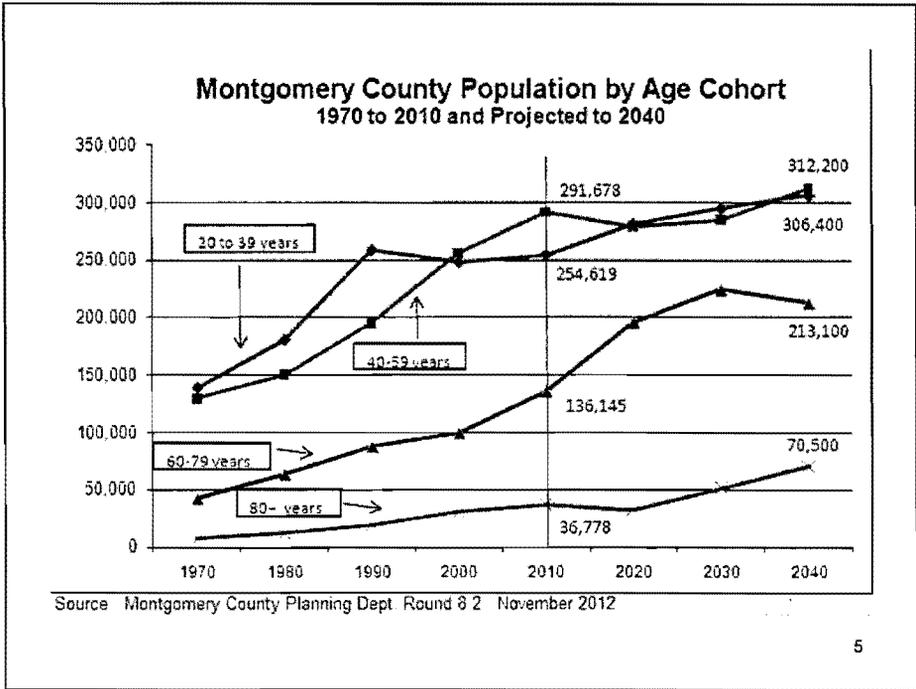
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**Montgomery County Population by Age Cohort
1970 to 2010 and Projected to 2040**



Source: Montgomery County Planning Dept. Round 3 2. November 2012

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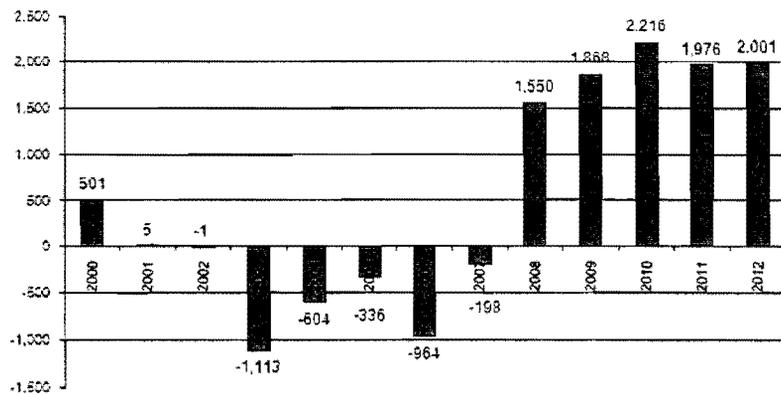


MCPS Enrollment Trends

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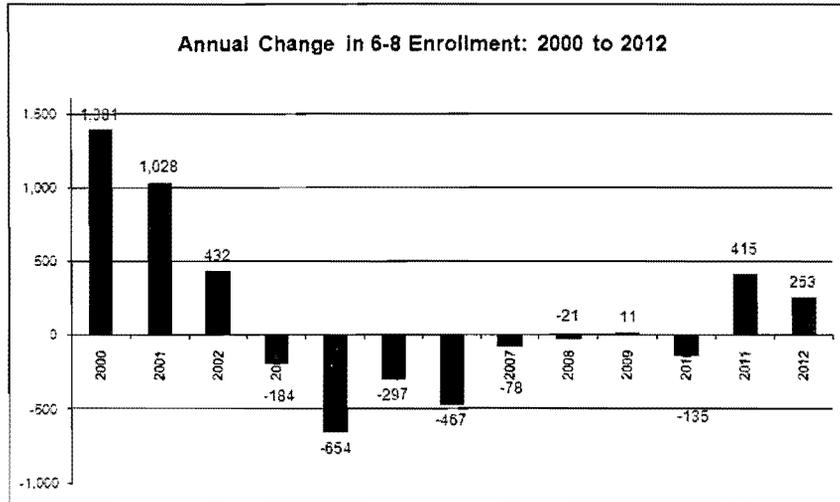
MCPS Grades K-5 Enrollment: 9,600 More Students Since 2007

Annual Change in K-5 Enrollment: 2000 to 2012



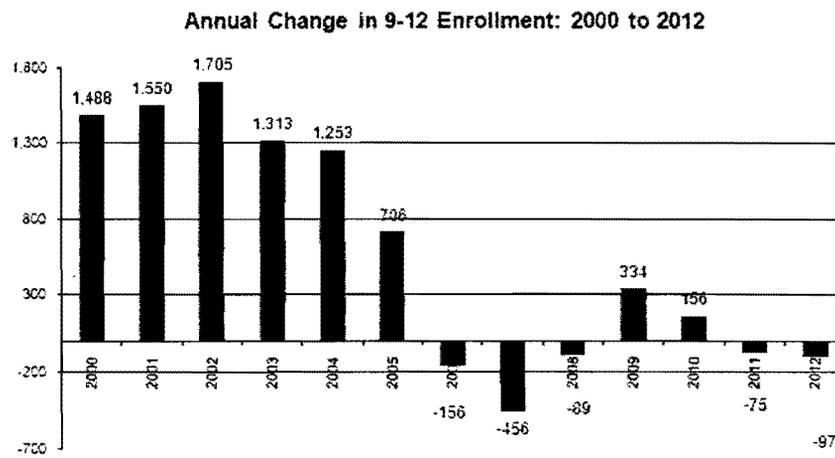
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MCPS Grades 6–8 Enrollment: Enrollment Increases Beginning



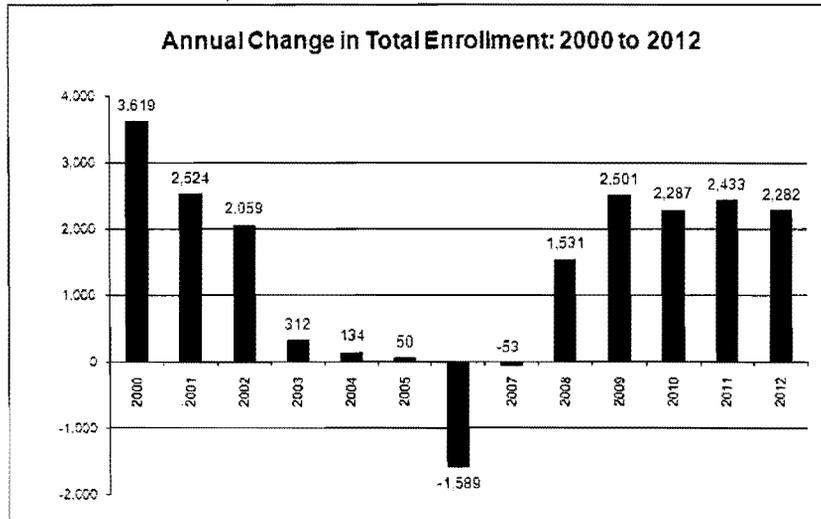
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MCPS Grades 9–12 Enrollment: Increases Will Begin in 2016



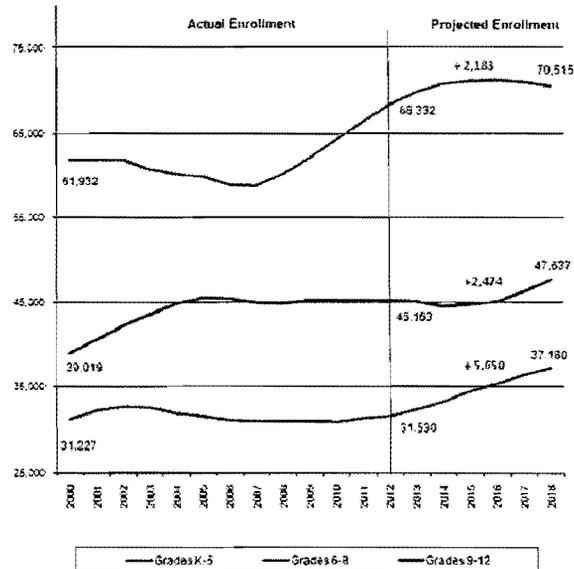
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MCPS Total Enrollment: 11,000 Increase Since 2007

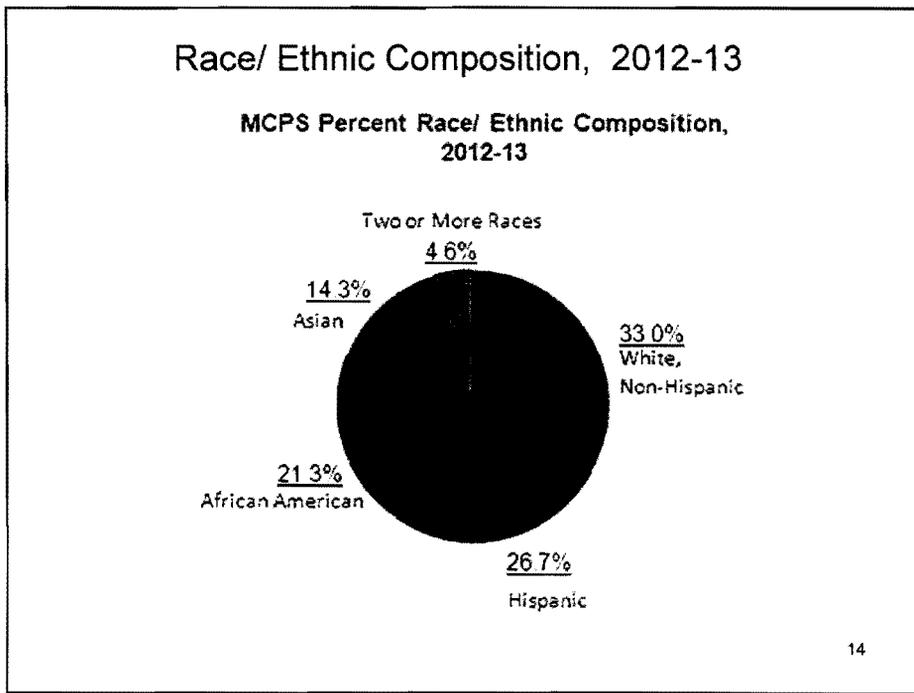
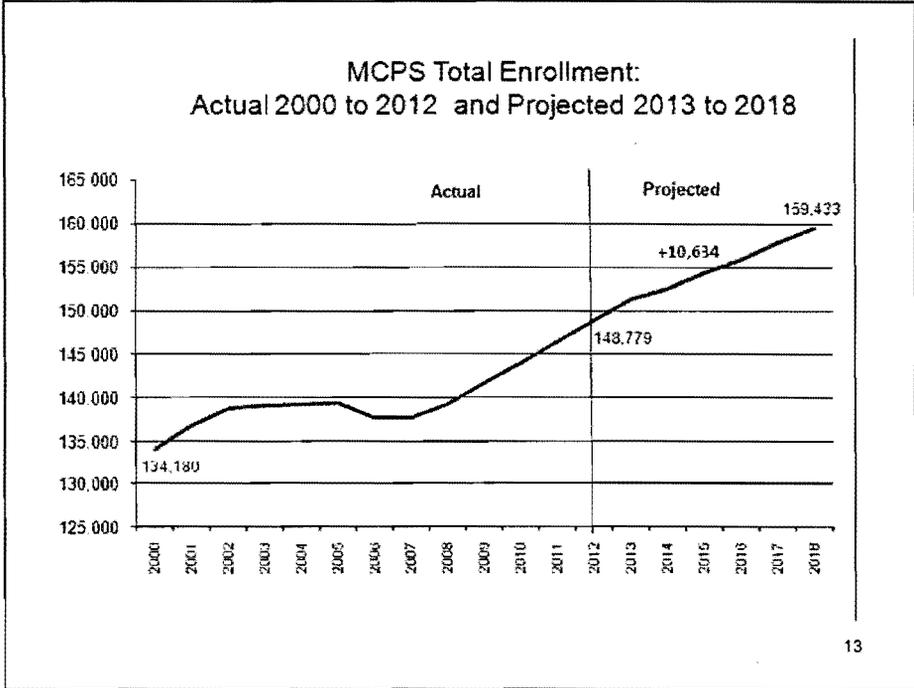


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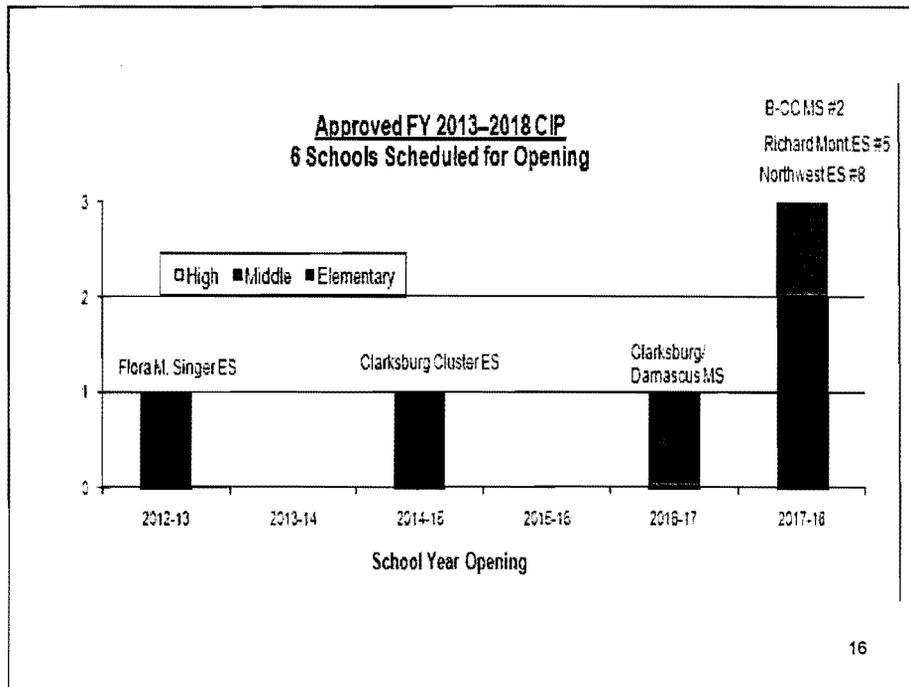
MCPS Enrollment: Actual 2000 to 2012 and Projected 2013 to 2018



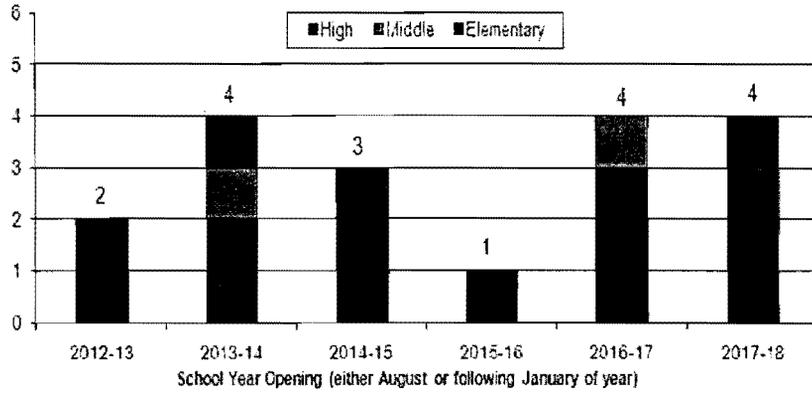
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**Keeping Up With Enrollment Growth:
Approved School Capacity Projects
in FY2013–2018 CIP**

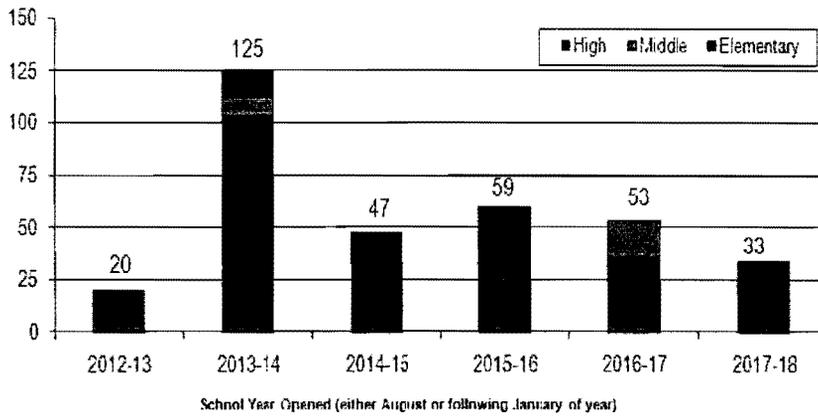


**Approved FY 2013-2018 CIP
18 Schools Scheduled for Modernization**

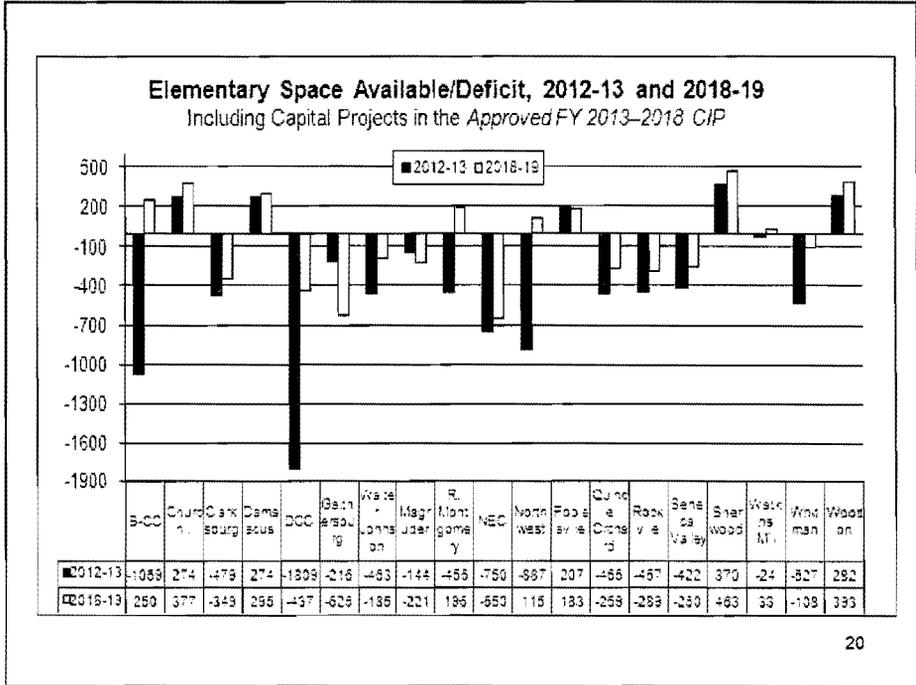
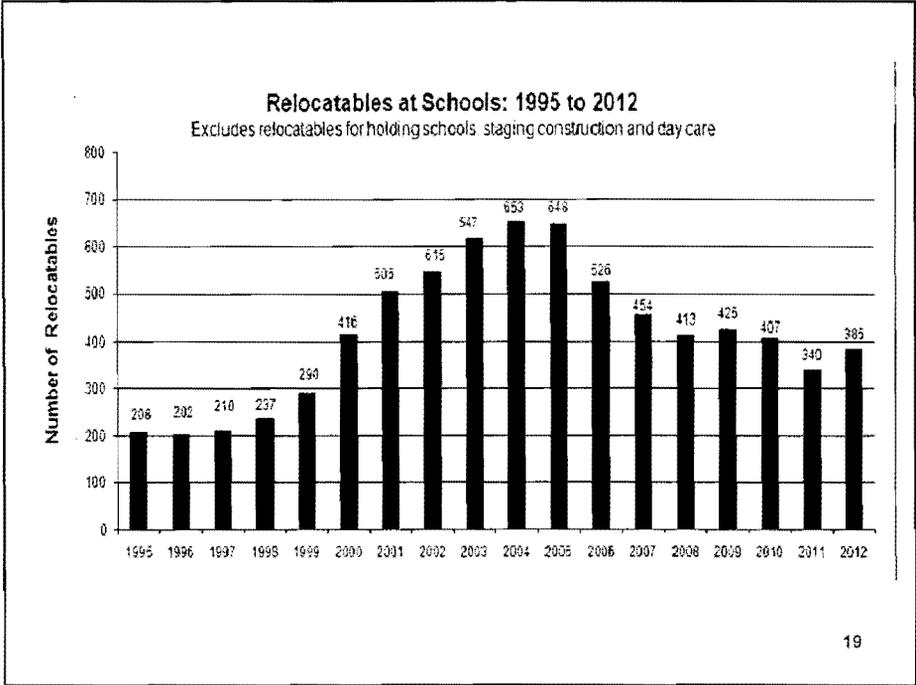


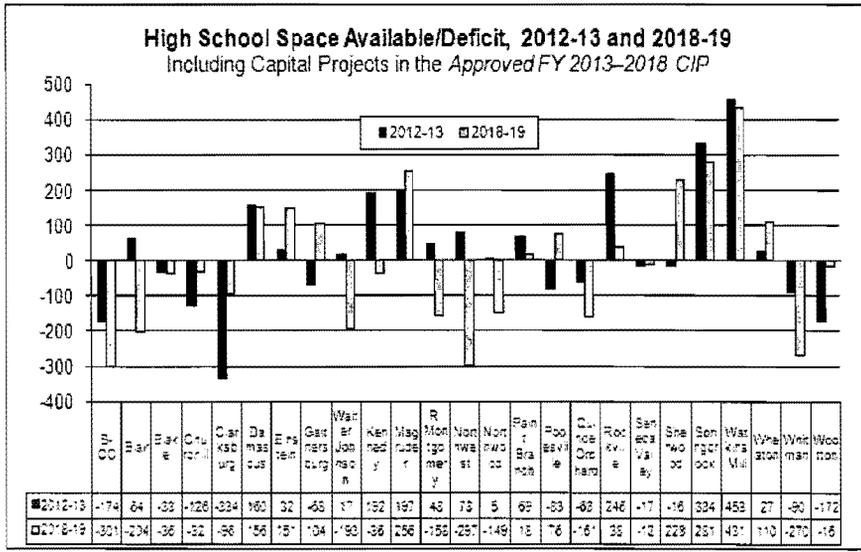
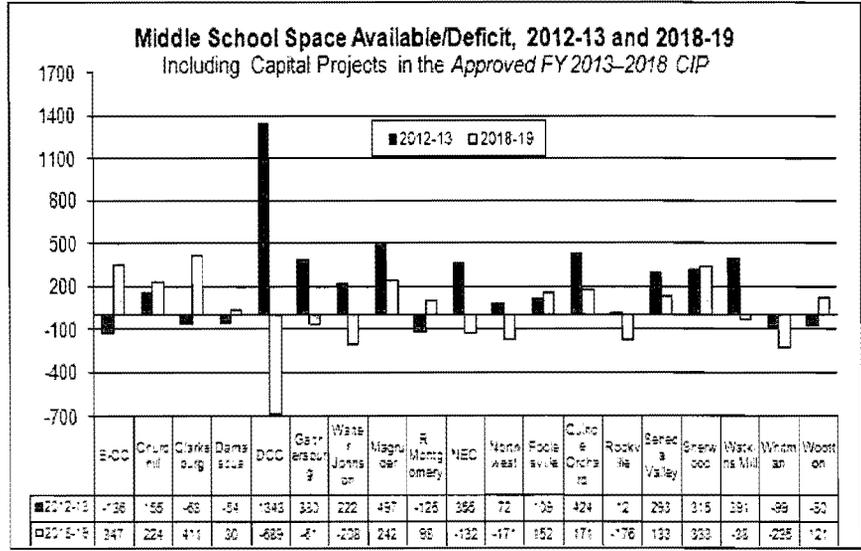
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**Approved FY 2013-2018 CIP
337 Additional Classrooms Scheduled (Approx. 7,700 seats)
Includes additions that are part of school modernizations**



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Subdivision Staging Policy: School Test

Subdivision Staging Policy – School Test FY13

15 of 25 Clusters Over 105% Utilization

Subdivision Staging Policy

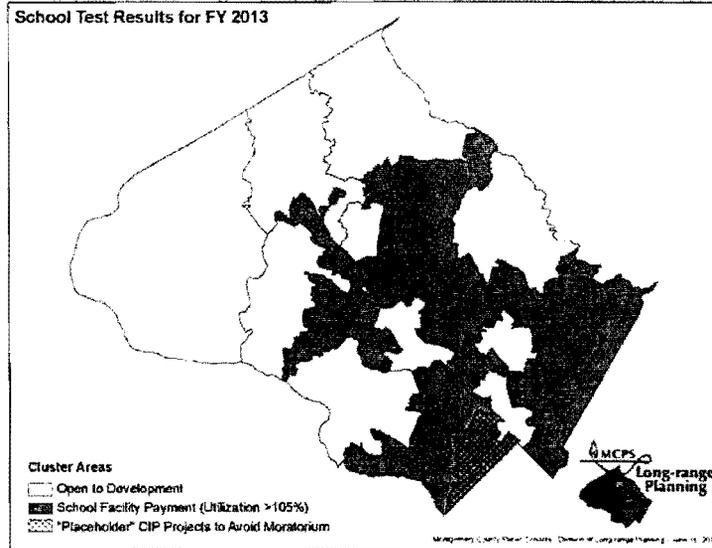
Results of School Test for FY 2013

Reflects County Council Adopted FY 2013 Capital Budget and FY 2013–2018 Capital Improvements Program (CIP)
Effective July 1, 2012

School Test Level	Description	Cluster Outcomes by Level		
		Elementary Inadequate	Middle Inadequate	High Inadequate
<u>Clusters over 105% utilization</u> School facility payment required in inadequate clusters to proceed.	5-year test Effective July 1, 2012 Test year 2017-18	Blake (106.7%) Galbersburg (110.0%) Magruder (105.4%) Paint Branch (114.5%) Quince Orchard (108.9%) Rockville (113.3%) Seneca Valley (111.9%)	Blair (106.9%) Walter Johnson (112.3%) Rockville (115.4%) Springbrook (108.7%) Wheaton (109.4%) Whitman (116.0%)	B-CC (115.8%) * Blake (106.7%) Walter Johnson (106.3%) Northwood (111.5%) Quince Orchard (107.1%) Whitman (109.3%) Wootton (107.6%)
<u>Clusters over 120% utilization</u> Moratorium required in clusters that are inadequate.	5-year test Effective July 1, 2012 Test year 2017-18	None	None	None

* Utilization of B-CC HS includes a "placeholder" capital project of ten classrooms, pending a request for an addition in a future CIP.

Subdivision Staging Policy – School Test FY13



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Subdivision Staging Policy – School Test FY14

Same as FY 2013 Plus Einstein, Richard Montgomery and Northwest Clusters

Subdivision Staging Policy Results of School Test for FY 2014

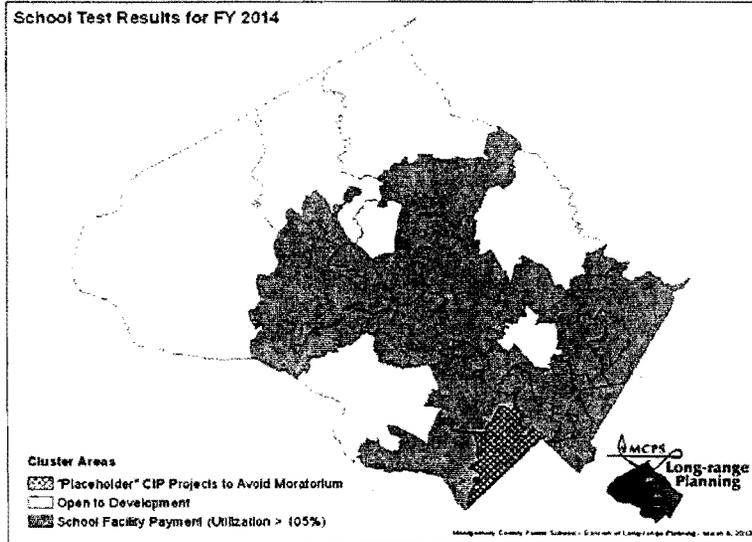
Reflects Board of Education Requested FY 2014 Capital Budget and Amendments to the FY 2013–2018 Capital Improvements Program (CIP)
Effective July 1, 2013

School Test Level	Description	Cluster Outcomes by Level		
		Elementary Inadequate	Middle Inadequate	High Inadequate
Clusters over 105% utilization	5-year test: Effective July 1, 2013 Test year 2018-19	Blair (108.2%) Blake (108.8%) Carksburg (105.1%) Einstein (108.0%) Gaithersburg (117.1%) Magruder (108.7%) Northwood (106.2%) Paint Branch (116.2%) Quince Orchard (109.7%) Rockville (112.7%) Seneca Valley (112.4%)	Blair (112.9%) Walter Johnson (111.5%) Northwest (106.4%) Northwood (109.9%) Rockville (118.8%) Springbrook (107.8%) Wheaton (119.4%) Whitman (118.5%)	B-CC (117.4%)* Blair (107.1%) Walter Johnson (108.5%) Richard Montgomery (107.2%) Northwest (113.8%) Northwood (109.9%) Quince Orchard (109.1%) Whitman (114.8%)
Clusters over 120% utilization	5-year test: Effective July 1, 2013 Test year 2018-19	None	None	None

* Utilization of B-CC HS includes a "placeholder" capital project of ten classrooms, pending a request for an addition in a future CIP

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Subdivision Staging Policy – School Test FY14



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Discussion



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