

2022 Master Facilities Plan Annual Supplement

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Introduction

Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-2803, the Mayor of the District of Columbia is required to prepare a 10-year Master Facilities Plan for public education facilities. The first plan was due on December 15, 2017, and new plans are due every 10 years thereafter. In addition, under the same statutory section, the Mayor is required to prepare a 5-year Master Facilities Plan by December 15, 2023. In addition to the larger comprehensive plans, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) is required to prepare and make publicly available an annual supplement to the Master Facilities Plan.

This report is the 2022 Annual Supplement to the DC Public Education Master Facilities Plan 2018 (hereafter referred to as the “2022 Annual Supplement” or “Supplement”). It includes information from all 69 local education agencies (LEAs) in Washington, DC operating in the 2021-22 School Year (SY), including both District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and public charter schools. The 2022 Annual Supplement relies on key contributions from and collaboration with DCPS, the DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB), the Department of General Services (DGS), and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) for its completion.

The 2022 Annual Supplement provides a broad review of public school facilities and their uses in SY2021-22. It contains information about facility capacity and utilization, school-level enrollment, DCPS building classifications, building utilization plans, and the status of currently vacant DCPS buildings. The Supplement uses data from last school year (SY2021-22) so that it is based on complete information, as the enrollment audit for the current school year, SY2022-23, has not yet been finalized. In addition, in anticipation of the full 2023 Master Facilities Plan being delivered later in 2023, this Supplement does not include information about DCPS or public charter facility conditions (e.g., facilitation condition assessments, asbestos, carbon monoxide, or water testing). That information will be included in the full 2023 Master Facilities Plan, which will be released later this year.

The information in this 2022 Annual Supplement contributes to the DME’s larger school planning efforts. The foundation of the DME’s planning work is the technical tool [EdScape](#), an online set of interactive visualizations and downloadable datasets used to inform and support school planning. The DME anticipates releasing a school needs analysis that builds on EdScape and information and recommended plans developed in the 2023 Master Facilities Plan that will further support city agencies, LEAs, and communities in making data-driven decisions on how to address gaps in the public school landscape in Washington, DC. This will be provided after the 2023 Master Facilities Plan and 2023 Boundary and Student Assignment studies are completed.

Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic has created multiple challenges for our schools and students. Schools pivoted to learning at-home starting in March 2020 (SY2019-20), and some families opted out of enrolling in public school for SY2020-21, as the pandemic continued. Therefore, many schools experienced decreased enrollment in SY2020-21, particularly in the early childhood, younger elementary grades, and adult schools. In SY2021-22, public school enrollment was mostly flat compared to the year prior. Some of our school communities experienced increased enrollment, particularly at early childhood grades, but not all rebounded to pre-pandemic enrollment levels, and the impact of smaller cohorts of early elementary grade students will impact schools for years to come.

The preliminary enrollment for SY2022-23 shows a return of enrollment growth. The unaudited numbers show an overall increase of nearly 3% across Washington, DC public schools – or approximately 2,600 more students – compared to the SY2021-22 count.

Locations of Public Facilities

Before diving into the specific details about the DCPS and public charter facilities in this Supplement, readers can orient themselves to the locations of public school facilities using multiple DME resources:

- The [SY2021-22](#) map of all public school facilities, including tables that display the locations of new schools, DCPS schools swinging to and from locations due to modernizations, schools relocating to a new permanent location, and all schools growing an additional grade. (The [SY2022-23](#) map is also available.)
- Facility locations over time from SY2013-14 through SY2022-23 via [EdScape](#).

Annual Survey Results

Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-2803, an annual survey is conducted to update information on enrollment in, the utilization of, and the condition of each DCPS and public charter school facility. The DCPS survey was completed in conjunction with DCPS and DGS alongside audited enrollment data provided by OSSE. DCPS provided programmatic facility capacity for DCPS school facilities in SY2021-22 that is included in this Annual Supplement and in DME’s EdScape’s [Chapter 3 - Public School Facilities](#).

DC PCSB conducted an annual survey of charter school LEAs on facility-related matters, the Public Charter School Facility Survey (“DC PCSB Facility Survey”), in the summer of 2021, with a 100% response rate from public charter school LEAs. The DC PCSB Facility Survey collected information on public charter schools’ capacity, facility needs, and facility conditions. Public charter school facility contacts (school leaders, operations staff, and/or facility specialists)

completed the survey. Programmatic facility capacity and utilization are available in Appendix B.

Regarding facility conditions, DGS provides facility condition indexes (FCIs) for DCPS schools that have received a facility condition assessment (FCA).¹ DGS also provides information on water test results and asbestos inspections for DCPS facilities. The DC PCSB Facility Survey also collects information from public charters on facility conditions and facility needs. Information relating to facility conditions will be included in the full 2023 Master Facilities Plan to be released later this year.

Enrollment by LEA and School

Audited enrollment data was provided by OSSE and is presented at the school level in Appendix A for DCPS schools and Appendix B for public charter schools.

The process to finalize the enrollment audit is not typically completed until late winter or spring of the school year. For this reason, the enrollment data presented in this Supplement are for SY2021-22.

Cross-Sector Enrollment Data

Looking at enrollment across the public school system, the pandemic negatively impacted public school enrollment in Washington, DC, as was the case in school systems across the country. SY2020-21 was a particularly challenging year, as some families opted out of enrolling in the city's public schools, resulting in a decrease in public school enrollment for the first time in over a decade. Total public school audited enrollment in SY2020-21 was 93,747 students (DCPS and public charter school students), a decrease of 0.8% compared to SY2019-20.² Enrollment in DCPS schools decreased by 2.2%, reaching 49,890 public school students (53% of total public school enrollment). DC public charter school enrollment increased by 0.9% to 43,857 (47% of total public school enrollment). Some of the greatest declines were in early childhood (PK3 and PK4), young elementary grades (kindergarten through second grade), and in adult schools.

Total public school enrollment for SY2021-22 signaled a slightly more positive trajectory, with enrollment increasing slightly to 93,807 students, but still did not return to pre-pandemic enrollment levels. Enrollment at the early childhood and elementary grade levels continued to be low, while high school, alternative, and adult grades rebounded slightly during SY2021-22 compared to the prior year. Looking at enrollment by sector, DCPS experienced a second year

¹ DGS conducts systematic FCAs on District-owned educational facilities.

² The universe of DCPS students includes audited UPSFF residents, non-resident tuition paying students, and residency unverified students. The universe of public charter students includes audited UPSFF residents.

of enrollment declines in SY2021-22 compared to the year before, decreasing by 1.7%. Public charter school enrollment increased for the second year, increasing by 2.1%. The public charter sector growth was driven mostly by 16 existing public charter schools growing to their next expected grade, four existing public charter LEAs opening new schools or facilities, and two new public charter LEAs.

Preliminary public school enrollment for SY2022-23 (the current school year) shows public school enrollments increasing across both sectors, which is particularly good news, as other jurisdictions have continued to experience suppressed enrollments. Please refer to EdScape Chapter 1 – [Public School Enrollment Over Time](#) for updates when the SY2022-23 audited enrollment is released.

5- and 10-Year Enrollment Estimates

DCPS' and public charter schools' 5- and 10-year estimates were first developed as part of the [2018 Master Facilities Plan](#) and then updated in the [2019 MFP Annual Supplement](#). No new 5- and 10-year public school projections have been released since the 2019 MFP Annual Supplement due to the deviations in public school enrollment due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting uncertainty surrounding enrollments during the recovery period.

Additionally, long-term enrollment projections are calculated using decennial census data as well as population forecasts from the DC Office of Planning. The 2020 Census data at single age and small geographies have still not been released by the US Census Bureau. The Office of Planning expects their forecasts that will support the DME's school projections to be ready by summer of 2023, taking into account the US Census Bureau's latest timeline. The DME will calculate new 5- and 10-year enrollment projections after this foundational data is made available and will release these calculations as part of the 2023 Master Facilities Plan.

Capacity and Utilization Reports

Programmatic facility capacity measures the number of students who can appropriately fit in a school building given the existing educational program. School utilization is derived by dividing the building's audited enrollment (the enrollment as of October 5) by programmatic facility capacity and is a measurement of how full a facility is. DCPS neighborhood schools ("schools of right") typically aim for a utilization between 80% to 95%, which allows for annual enrollment fluctuations as well as some mid-year increases in enrollment while maintaining adequate space for their educational programming.

More information and analysis about capacity, utilization, and unfilled seats for SY2013-14 through SY2021-22 can be found in [EdScape](#).

DCPS Facilities

Appendix A includes school-level DCPS facility data, including facility utilization rates for each active DCPS school. The calculations are based on SY2021-22 audited enrollment and SY2021-22 programmatic facility capacity (identifying solely permanent facility capacity as well as portable plus permanent capacity). School-level programmatic facility capacity numbers are calculated by DCPS using a methodology based on room type (i.e., general classroom, art room, gym), room load capacity, and the number of each room type.

The upcoming 2023 Master Facilities Plan will develop new processes for LEAs to measure and share facilities' programmatic capacities moving forward. This will include developing standardized assumptions for DCPS (e.g., expected type and number of classrooms per grade level and school size, expected student class loads), creating standardized templates for each DCPS school, and conducting community engagement to provide feedback on the assumptions and final measurements.

DC Public Charter School Facilities

Appendix B contains SY2021-22 school-level public charter facility data. DC PCSB collects public charter programmatic capacities from each public charter LEA. The public charter LEAs determine their programmatic facility capacities based on their criteria for staffing levels, specificities for educational programs, and other factors.

The revised programmatic capacity efforts described above will also be available for public charter LEAs as part of the upcoming 2023 Master Facilities Plan. A select number of public charter LEAs will participate in a way similar in scope to DCPS, and the full Master Facility Plan will provide templates for all public charter LEAs to use moving forward.

DCPS Facility Classification

D.C. Official Code § 38-2803 requires that DCPS categorize all of its facilities into one of the following categories:

1. In use primarily for classroom instruction;
2. In use primarily for swing space;
3. In use primarily for DCPS administrative purposes, including storage;
4. In use by an entity other than DCPS;
5. Vacant; or
6. Significantly underused.

"Significantly underused" is defined as a DCPS facility that is used primarily for administrative purposes and uses less than 25% of the property's available square footage on a daily basis.

In addition, those DCPS facilities not currently housing schools that have capital funding approved in the District’s capital improvements plan are designated as “Capital Construction Funding Approved.” See Appendix C for the facility designation for all DCPS buildings. Appendix A includes designation of approved capital funding through the latest Capital Improvement Plan (either FY22-FY27 or FY23-FY28, depending which is later) as well as the years of anticipated construction for those designated schools.

Schools Designated as Excess

D.C. Official Code § 38-2803 further requires that within 30 days after the release of the Annual Supplement, the DME shall determine which school facilities will be designated as excess and shall make a list of these properties publicly available on its website. No DCPS schools have been designated as excess in the 2022 Annual Supplement, see Appendix D.

For additional information about the status of formerly closed DCPS buildings, please see the DME’s detailed Edsight brief and downloadable data that summarizes the current uses as of September 2021, [Closed DCPS Facilities](#).

DCPS Utilization Plans

D.C. Official Code § 38-2803 requires DCPS to submit a plan, including co-location options, to increase utilization at any school facility in use by DCPS with a utilization rate of less than 50% of their programmatic facility capacity. This 2022 Annual Supplement relies on utilization rates based on solely permanent capacity, meaning that the calculated utilization does not take into account portable capacity. D.C. Official Code § 38-2803 also requires a plan to ensure that each school facility in use by DCPS that is at greater than or equal to 95% of its programmatic facility capacity does not suffer from overcrowding and can sufficiently meet the facility and academic needs of students. DME and DCPS provide plans for schools in these categories.

The lists below highlight the schools required to have an education plan to address either high or low utilization rates. See Appendix A for all schools meeting the criteria outlined in D.C. Official Code § 38-2803.

Schools with Less than 50% Utilization in SY2021-22

Nineteen DCPS schools had a utilization of 50.0% or less, relying on just permanent capacity during SY2021-22. Seven of these schools are located in Ward 8, five in Ward 7, three in Ward 5 and two each in Wards 2 and 4 (based on 2022 ward boundaries).

In nine of the 19 instances, funding is included in the FY23-28 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP): seven are for modernization, one for the addition of early childhood seats serving infants and toddlers, and one for both modernization and a childhood development center. Enrollment trends and utilization will be taken into account as the planning for those schools occurs. For

the remaining 10 schools, DME is flagging them specifically for focus in the upcoming 2023 Master Facilities Plan. See Appendix A for each school’s plans.

Schools with <= 50% Utilization, SY2021-22

- Aiton ES (FY23-28 CIP) (renamed Lorraine Whitlock in SY22-23)
- Anacostia HS
- Benjamin Banneker HS
- Browne Education Campus (FY23-28 CIP)
- Bunker Hill ES (FY23-28 CIP)
- Garfield ES (FY23-28 CIP)
- H.D. Woodson HS
- Hart MS (FY23-28 CIP)
- Johnson MS
- Kramer MS
- LaSalle-Backus ES (FY23-28 CIP)
- Luke C. Moore Opportunity Academy
- Malcolm X ES @ Green (FY23-28 CIP)
- Military Road Early Learning Center
- Moten ES
- Nalle ES (FY23-28 CIP)
- Ron Brown College Preparatory HS
- Sousa MS
- Thaddeus Stevens Early Learning Center

Comparison to Prior School Year. Fourteen of the schools listed above were also identified as underutilized in the 2021 Annual Supplement. Three schools, Browne EC (+2 percentage points compared to last year’s Supplement), Kramer MS (+6 percentage points) and H.D. Woodson HS (+4 percentage points), increased utilization over the previous year while remaining below 50%. The remaining schools decreased utilization year-over-year.

One school, Eliot-Hine MS, with a utilization less than 50% in SY2020-21 just narrowly crossed the threshold having a utilization of above 50% in SY21-22 (42% in SY2020-21 versus 50.4% in SY2021-22).

Five of the 19 schools with utilization below 50% in SY2021-22 had utilizations above 50% in the previous SY2020-21 school year: Benjamin Banneker HS, LaSalle-Backus ES, Luke C. Moore Opportunity Academy, Military Road Early Learning Center, and Thaddeus Stevens Early Learning Center. Of these schools, LaSalle-Backus ES (previously an education campus) removed the 8th grade as of SY2021-22.

Schools with Greater than or Equal to 95% Utilization in SY2021-22

Fifteen DCPS schools had a utilization of greater than or equal to 95% based on just permanent capacity during SY2021-22. Wards 3 and 4 each contained five of the 15 schools, while Ward 1 contained two and Ward 2 contained three (based on 2022 ward boundaries).

Funding is included in the FY23-28 CIP to help address the overutilization through modernization of five of the 14 schools: Barnard ES, Deal MS, Oyster-Adams Bilingual School (Adams), School Without Walls @ Francis Stevens, and Stoddert ES. Another three are selective high schools that can manage their enrollment through their application and lottery process:

Columbia Heights Education Campus, Duke Ellington HS, and School Without Walls HS. The new MacArthur HS is opening in SY23-24 to help address the overcrowding at Jackson-Reed HS. And the Roosevelt STAY program will be moving to its permanent home, Garnett-Patterson, starting in SY2022-23, which will assist with the overutilization at both Roosevelt STAY and Roosevelt HS. For the remaining four schools (Brightwood ES, Hearst ES, Lafayette ES, and Oyster-Adams (Oyster)), DME is noting them specifically for focus in the upcoming 2023 Master Facilities Plan. See Appendix A for each school’s plans.

Schools with >= 95% Utilization, SY2021-22

- Barnard ES (FY23-28 CIP)
- Brightwood ES
- Columbia Heights Education Campus
- Deal MS (FY23-28 CIP)
- Duke Ellington School of the Arts
- Hearst ES
- Jackson-Reed HS (formerly Wilson HS)
- Lafayette ES
- Oyster-Adams Bilingual School (Adams) (FY23-28 CIP)
- Oyster-Adams Bilingual School (Oyster)
- Roosevelt HS
- Roosevelt STAY Opportunity Academy
- School Without Walls @ Francis-Stevens (FY23-28 CIP)
- School Without Walls HS
- Stoddert ES (FY23-28 CIP)

Comparison to Prior School Year. In SY2020-21, there were 19 schools with utilization of permanent capacity greater than or equal to 95%.³ All fifteen schools identified in SY2021-22 also had utilization of permanent capacity that was equal to or greater than 95% in SY2020-21.

Ten schools remained unchanged or saw a reduction in utilization between the years. Two of these schools changed grade ranges between school years; Brightwood ES (previously an Education Campus) removed the 8th grade, and Hearst ES added PK3.

However, five schools saw an increase in utilization: Columbia Heights Education Campus (+6 percentage points compared to SY2020-21), Jackson-Reed HS (formerly Wilson HS) (+6 percentage points), Oyster-Adams Bilingual School (Oyster) (+<1 percentage point), Roosevelt HS (+10 percentage points) and Stoddert ES (+5 percentage points). Four of the 19 schools with permanent capacity utilization above 95% in SY2020-21 fell below this threshold in SY2021-22: Hyde-Addison ES, Ketcham ES, Ross ES, and Van Ness ES.

³ The 2021 MFP Supplement reported utilization based on total capacity (the sum of permanent and portable capacity), which resulted in 13 schools.

Appendices

Appendix A – DCPS SY2021-22 Enrollment Data

Appendix B – DC PCS SY2021-22 Enrollment Data

Appendix C – DCPS Facility Classification

Appendix D – Designations of DCPS Facilities