

Implementation Timeline – Programs

Date	Deliverable
August 2026	Launch Information Modules for (SY 2026–2027) Grade 8 Students
September 2026	Host Regional Informational Meetings for Parents of (SY 2026–2027) Grade 8 Students
October 2026	Open Enrollment Window for (SY 2026–2027) Grade 8 Students Launch Modules for (SY 2026–2027) Grade 7 Students
December 2026	Finalize and Publish Scope & Sequence, Unit Overviews, and Frameworks for EXISTING Courses
April 2027	Launch Modules for (SY 2026–2027) Grade 6 Students
May 2027	Finalize and Publish Curriculum Frameworks for NEW Courses
July 2027	Provide Professional Learning for Grade 9 Teachers Provide Professional Learning for Middle School and High School Principals

Implementation for Boundary and Programs

High School

- SY 2026–2027 — 9th Graders in a centrally-managed regional/countywide program or assigned through the Northeast or Downcounty Choice process would remain in their program and not be reassigned per the new boundaries.

Middle School

- SY 2027–2028 — 6th Graders in a centrally-managed world language or regional/countywide program would remain in their program and not be reassigned per the new boundaries.

Implementation for Both Boundary Studies

High School

- SY 2027–2028 — Grades 9 and 10 students move to their new high school, Grades 11 and 12 students remain in their current high school of assignment
- SY 2028–2029 — Grades 9 through 11 students are in their new high school, Grade 12 students remain in their current high school of assignment
- SY 2029–2030 — full implementation of Grades 9 through 12

Middle School

- SY 2027–2028 — Grades 6 and 7 students move to their new middle school
- SY 2028–2029 — full implementation of Grades 6 through 8

Response received from MCPS Administration:

MCPS is designing the regional programs with two access points: criteria-based programs and interest-based programs.

For criteria-based programs, MCPS already has a strong, well-established admissions infrastructure that is reviewed annually for effectiveness and continuous improvement. As we implement the regional model, we will continue to use the High School Common Application process, including a consistent season for family information sessions, an application window, a structured review period, and published results timelines. Criteria will be determined by the end of April, 2026. Admissions decisions for criteria-based programs will continue to rely on multiple measures, aligned to the specific program. Depending on the pathway, these measures may include indicators of academic readiness, student work samples or performance tasks and—for certain programs—auditions or portfolios. Our goal is a careful, transparent review process that recognizes both readiness and potential and ensures we do not miss students who could thrive with the opportunity.

For interest-based pathways, access will be guided primarily by student interest, with clear entry points, counseling supports, and enrollment processes that ensure students can participate successfully.