

Grosvenor Center Future Usage
Community Meeting Notes March 23, 2026

Q & A:

Are the fields at Grosvenor owned by Montgomery Parks or MCPS?

We confirm that the fields are owned by MCPS.

When do you anticipate that the Grosvenor leasing RFP would be posted? Please provide a link for the proposed lease RFP when it goes public.

It will be posted soon. <insert link>

How large is the Grosvenor Center?

The facility is approximately 36,000 square feet and has 19 classrooms.

What price/square foot will it rent for? Who are the potential tenants being considered?

It will be set comparable to others in the area. We are not able to share information about potential tenants at this time. We will post the RFP and see who responds.

Will the new modular unit take up space on the existing fields or will it take up space where the existing portables are?

We do not know specifically where the modular classroom building would be placed yet.

Is the recommendation to delay Cold Spring's major capital project for 3 years from the County Executive and not yet part of the formal CIP 27-32 proposal?

The schedule and proposed delay for Cold Spring ES will be firmed up once the County Council takes action on the CIP in May.

Will the playground and fields at the Grosvenor Center continue to be available to the public? (as they have been for years)

If the facility is leased to an operating school that serves children, there would need to be limits to access during school hours, but if the facility is leased to an entity that does not include students it might be available during school hours. In either case it will be available outside of school hours.

When will Cold Spring ES move into the Grosvenor Center?

The timeline for Cold Spring is dependent on up to the County Council action as far as non recommended reductions. We will know more in late May.

Will there be improvements to the parking lot at Grosvenor Center? In addition, will the surrounding streets have parking changes? (It was very difficult for residents on Dickens with teachers and parents occupying much of the parking by the school and neither group (teachers or parents) were always respectful. Parking by previous school using the site: They were using side street, however it was dangerous and unsupervised (people parking on both sides of the street and kids running across.) Teachers and parents used the street as their parking and were not respectful of residents so figuring out how to be better neighbors is important to those of us on Dickens. Can the parking/transportation issues be addressed with whomever ends up leasing the space, so that it doesn't happen again by contract?

MCPS does not anticipate making improvements to the parking lot however we are aware of how the last school or two was using the side street for parents to drop off and pick up students and we will discourage future schools from doing so. While there is not a separate bus loop and car drop off loop at this facility schools have done all drop off at the front of the building for many years prior.

A tenant leasing the facility will need to park onsite on a daily basis however there may be infrequent exceptions just like there are with operating schools when there is overflow parking on neighborhood streets, such as during a back-to-school night or other large event.

The back staircase leading up from Cheshire Drive is in desperate need of repair and/or replacement. The wooden stairs have rotted through, creating a dangerous situation. In addition, fallen trees and dead wood are littering the property and need to be removed. Tree trimming and removal needs to be performed.

We will let MCPS maintenance and operations know about these concerns so that they can be remedied.

What is the backup plan if the current CIP budget is not approved?

If funding for the elementary school major capital projects and holding center improvements are not available MCPS plans to continue leasing out the facility until funding becomes available in a future CIP. MCPS may also use the facility for swing space for schools undergoing systemic renovation projects.

What is the population capacity at Grosvenor Center and at Cold Spring?

Cold Spring has 481 capacity. 367 enrollment now and 24 classrooms in their current facility. The Grosvenor Center (19 rooms) has housed larger school populations which is why it has 17 relocatable classrooms currently.

Are any renovations going to be made to the Grosvenor Center building itself?

There was funding in the recommended CIP for holding center improvements, so modifications beyond routine maintenance will be considered when funding becomes available along with replacement of the existing relocatable classrooms with a large modular building.

Has there ever been a general discussion about eventually using the Grosvenor Center (renovated) as a community center one day?

If MCPS ever decides to surplus the facility back to Montgomery County it would be up to the County to decide how to use the facility.

Is MCPS receiving unsolicited proposals from real estate developers for this property?

No.

Has MCPS requested to occupy the newly vacant former Kensington Elementary School for office use?

Specific MCPS offices expected to move in are still to be finalized. In the long term we are considering using the facility as an early childhood center.

Is the office space use request for Kensington Parkwood Elementary School?

No, it is a different facility that was mentioned that MCPS is in the process of reacquiring with plans to use for office space. Former Kensington ES is located at 10400 Detrick Avenue, and has been under County ownership with the Housing Opportunities Commission occupying since 1987.

Will the gymnasium and outdoor space at the former Kensington facility be available to the public?

MCPS plans to reopen the gymnasium back up for community use of public facilities like it has been for many years. MCPS currently has no plans to make any changes to the outdoor amenities onsite.

What is the status of the facility at 9411 Connecticut Ave., Kensington, MD 20985?

The former Larchmont ES in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster is a County-owned facility that is leased to Grace Episcopal Day School.

How does MCPS forecast enrollment? Are birth rates in the area being considered? What data is used to inform enrollment studies and capital improvement plans?

Yes, the best source that explains how enrollment projections work is in the CIP book or CIP online on the MCPS planning website. Chapter 2 and Appendix C-2 explain in more detail about how enrollment is forecast using births to a kindergarten capture rate to determine kindergarten and then by using the cohort survival method for students matriculating from one grade to the next.

Given how overcrowded Ashburton ES is, why is there no conversation about renovating the Grosvenor Center to create a new elementary school? Are you looking at opening a 7th elementary school in the cluster? Many neighbors want this school opened for the nearby children.

Whenever we do look to open a new school we need to go through a site selection process. There was a joint site selection process held for the Walter Johnson and Bethesda-Chevy Chase clusters in 2019 and an FY2025 appropriation was requested, however, due to fiscal constraints, the County Council shifted planning expenditures to the out-years of the adopted FY 2025-2030 CIP. Due to the declining enrollment the recommendation in the current FY 2027-2032 CIP is for a future countywide elementary school boundary study with a look at possible consolidations and closures.

I am very concerned that this discussion appears to be happening in a vacuum, while separate meetings address the boundaries and over enrollment at Ashburton. Declining enrollment is not the reality at Ashburton, the proposed elementary school boundary timeline perhaps reflects patterns observed throughout the county, and although Grosvenor is not likely the solution, it's a shame that we're not taking this opportunity while plans for Grosvenor must be determined to also prioritize resolving the inequities of the Ashburton boundary in comparison to our neighboring schools with much smaller enrollments.

The Board of Education, at its March 26 meeting, approved an upcoming countywide elementary school boundary study.