



MacArthur High School: Frequently Asked Questions

Overview

In March 2022, DC Public Schools announced plans to open a new high school in Northwest Washington, DC. The new school will be a neighborhood high school in the former Georgetown Day School building and will open in August 2023. As DCPS makes plans to open this new high school, we commit to keeping you informed throughout the process. For all updates related to the school, please visit <https://dcps.dc.gov/macarthur>

Please note that as of March 2022, the high school formerly named Woodrow Wilson High School (3950 Chesapeake St NW) has been renamed Jackson-Reed High School. The name Jackson-Reed HS is used throughout this document.

MacArthur High School

Location	4530 MacArthur Boulevard NW
Opening date	August 2023
Grades served	9 to 12
Boundary and Feeder Pattern	MacArthur will be the in-boundary neighborhood school for all students living in the Hardy Middle School boundary. It will be the destination school for all students attending Hardy MS or one of Hardy’s feeder elementary schools (Eaton Elementary School, Hyde-Addison Elementary School, Key Elementary School, Mann Elementary School, and Stoddert Elementary School). Once MacArthur HS opens in School Year 2023-2024, Hardy MS will no longer be a feeder school to Jackson-Reed HS, but some students will be eligible for phase-in policies, or “grandfathering”. Please see the FAQ section of this document for information on boundary rights, feeder rights, and phase-in policies.

This document is an updated version of the Frequently Asked Questions documents that were released in November 2022 ([FAQ #2 English](#), [FAQ#2 Spanish](#)) and June 2022 ([FAQ#1 English](#), [FAQ#1 Spanish](#)). To view that initial document, visit: <https://dcps.dc.gov/macarthur>

School Program and Planning

What types of programming does DCPS offer at other DCPS neighborhood high schools?

DCPS offers a wide range of programming at the high school level. To learn about the programming available across all DCPS high schools, download the DCPS High School Booklet at <https://enrolldcps.dc.gov/node/46>

- All DCPS neighborhood high schools offer rigorous academics through either Advanced Placement (AP) courses, International Baccalaureate courses, or some combination of both.
- All DCPS neighborhood high schools offer National Academy Foundation College & Career Academies, often referred to as NAF Academies. These academies prepare students with technical and academic skills in 16 areas related to high-demand careers such as architecture, biotechnology, computer science, and engineering.
- All DCPS neighborhood high schools offer robust arts programs which may include choir, dance, band, visual arts, and digital arts.

How will MacArthur serve students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and students receiving English Learner (EL) services?

Like all DCPS neighborhood schools, MacArthur will be prepared to serve students with special needs and English Learners. Special education programming will include both inclusion and self-contained programming. The feeder pattern from Hardy to MacArthur will ultimately include students receiving special education support in self-contained classrooms.

Boundary and Feeder Changes

What will be the shape of the boundary of MacArthur High School?

The boundary for MacArthur HS will be identical to the boundary for Hardy MS. Once MacArthur opens, all students living in-boundary for Hardy MS will have the right to attend MacArthur HS and will no longer be in-boundary for Jackson-Reed HS.

What middle schools will feed into MacArthur High School?

Hardy MS will feed into MacArthur HS. Any student who completes 8th grade at Hardy MS will have a right to attend MacArthur HS.

What is the difference between feeder rights and boundary rights?

Many DCPS schools are part of a feeder pattern, meaning that when a student graduates from one school they have a right to enroll at the next school in the feeder pattern, called the *destination school*.

An elementary school may feed into a destination middle school. A middle school may feed into a destination high school. A student's feeder pattern is based on the school the child currently attends. View a school's DCPS School Profile to view feeder and destination schools <https://profiles.dcps.dc.gov/>.

A child's in-boundary school is solely based on the child's home address. Every home address has an assigned elementary, middle, and high school. Visit <https://enrolldcps.dc.gov/node/41> to view current boundary assignments. Note that any address currently assigned to Hardy MS will be assigned to MacArthur HS when it opens.

How will the new MacArthur HS boundary and feeder pattern affect my children?

For students enrolled in Jackson-Reed High School:

- Any student enrolled at Jackson-Reed HS before MacArthur HS opens may remain enrolled at Jackson-Reed HS.

For students enrolled in Hardy Middle School:

- Hardy MS will feed into MacArthur HS. Any student who graduates from Hardy MS will have a right to attend MacArthur HS once it opens in August 2023. Based on phase-in policies, the feeder rights of a Hardy student depend on the school year the student will enter 9th grade.
 - Any Hardy student entering 9th grade in School Year 2024-2025 or earlier will have dual feeder rights to both MacArthur HS and the former destination high school, Jackson-Reed HS.
 - Any Hardy student entering 9th grade in School Year 2025-2026 or later will have feeder rights only to MacArthur HS. Based on phase-in policies, an exception will be made for siblings. A student maintains the right to enroll at the former destination school, Jackson-Reed HS, if they have a sibling enrolled at Jackson-Reed at the time of their entry to high school.

For students enrolled at one of the elementary schools that feed into Hardy MS (Eaton, Hyde-Addison, Key, Mann, or Stoddert ES):

- Any student who graduates from Hardy and enters 9th grade in School Year 2025-2026 or later will have feeder rights only to MacArthur HS. Based on phase-in policies, an exception will be made for siblings. A student maintains the right to enroll at the former destination school, Jackson-Reed HS, if they have a sibling enrolled at Jackson-Reed at the time of their entry to high school.

For students whose address is re-assigned to MacArthur while not enrolled in Hardy MS or a feeder elementary school:

- When MacArthur HS opens, all students living in the Hardy MS boundary will be re-assigned to MacArthur HS as their in-boundary high school. These reassigned students will no longer have an in-boundary right to enroll in Jackson-Reed HS. Students living outside the new boundary of Jackson-Reed HS will need to apply through the My School DC lottery to attend. An exception will be made for siblings. A student maintains the right to enroll in their former in-boundary school, Jackson-Reed HS, if they have a sibling enrolled at Jackson-Reed at the time of their entry to high school.

For students, whose address is re-assigned to MacArthur while not enrolled in Hardy MS or a feeder elementary school			
Grade in SY2022-2023	Year Student Enters 9 th Grade	In-boundary right to MacArthur? <small>(Confirm at https://enrolldcps.dc.gov)</small>	In-boundary right to Jackson-Reed?
8 th grade	SY2023-2024	YES	NO, unless a sibling is enrolled at Jackson-Reed in SY2023-2024
7 th grade	SY2024-2025	YES	NO, unless a sibling is enrolled at Jackson-Reed in SY2024-2025
6 th grade	SY2025-2026	YES	NO, unless a sibling is enrolled at Jackson-Reed in SY2025-2026
5 th grade	SY2026-2027	YES	NO, unless a sibling is enrolled at Jackson-Reed in SY2026-2027

What phase-in policies are being implemented for impacted families?

Phase-in policies, or “grandfathering”, allow boundary and feeder changes to be implemented gradually and provide special considerations for siblings. At MacArthur HS, DCPS will provide the following phase-in policies:

- Students already attending Jackson-Reed HS when MacArthur HS opens will not be required to change schools.
- Students whose addresses have been reassigned from in-boundary for Jackson-Reed HS to in-boundary for MacArthur HS will maintain their former in-boundary rights to Jackson-Reed HS only if they have a sibling enrolled at Jackson-Reed at the time of their entry to high school.
- Students who graduated from Hardy MS and are eligible for phase-in policies will have dual rights to Jackson-Reed and MacArthur HS until the subsequent first day of school - for students who graduated in SY22-23, the subsequent first day of school is August 28, 2023. Once the subsequent school year begins, phase in rights based on their middle school will no longer apply.
- Students who graduate from Hardy MS and enter 9th grade in or before School Year 2024-2025 will have dual rights to both MacArthur HS and the former destination high school, Jackson-Reed HS. See chart below.
- Students who graduate from Hardy MS and enter 9th grade in School Year 2025-2026 or later will have feeder rights only to MacArthur HS. An exception will be made for siblings. A student maintains the right to enroll at the former destination school, Jackson-Reed HS, if they have a sibling enrolled at Jackson-Reed at the time of their entry to high school. See chart below.

Grade in SY2022-2023	Grade in SY2023-24	Year Student Enters 9 th Grade	Feeder rights from Hardy to MacArthur	Feeder rights from Hardy to Jackson-Reed
8 th grade	9 th grade	SY2023-2024	YES	YES
7 th grade	8 th grade	SY2024-2025	YES	YES
6 th grade	7 th grade	SY2025-2026	YES	No, unless a sibling is enrolled in SY2025-26
5 th grade	6 th grade	SY2026-2027	YES	No, unless a sibling is enrolled in SY2026-2027

How will MacArthur impact out-of-boundary student access?

Like other DCPS neighborhood schools, MacArthur HS will participate in the My School DC lottery. This means that families living outside of the school boundary may apply for out-of-boundary seats.

MacArthur HS was included as a school option in the School Year 2023-2024 lottery that opened in December of 2022. DCPS publicly posts the lottery results of all DCPS schools at <https://enrolldcps.dc.gov>.

Some lottery seats will be reserved for students who meet the criteria of the Equitable Access Designated Seats program. The program’s criteria include students who are experiencing homelessness, in the District’s foster care system, receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, or high school students that are one year older, or more, than the expected age for their grade.

Students from Deal MS, Oyster-Adams Bilingual School and Jackson-Reed HS will receive a transfer preference while applying through the My School DC lottery. You can learn more about the transfer preference [here](#).

Community Engagement and Outreach

How were communities informed and engaged in the decision-making process for MacArthur?

Between February and June 2021, DCPS conducted a joint school planning engagement process to inform impacted communities of the elementary school at Foxhall Road and MacArthur HS that included many elements:

- A **Community Working Group (CWG)** of school, parents, and community representatives.
- **School and community meetings**, including **student focus groups**
- An **online survey** to ensure broad feedback opportunities
- A **community listening session** to hear testimony from the community.
- DCPS also received input through direct emails, ANC resolutions and civic group reports.

Through this process, DCPS engaged over 2,000 stakeholders and heard constructive and thoughtful input on the options for Foxhall and MacArthur. The results of this engagement process, including final recommendations from the Community Working Group, were shared with DCPS and city leadership to inform the final decisions on Foxhall and MacArthur. The Foxhall and MacArthur planning and engagement process has been summarized and documented publicly on the [DCPS School Planning Blog](#).

Who can I contact if I have any questions about MacArthur HS?

If you have questions, please email the school planning team at dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov or the MacArthur team at macarthurhs@k12.dc.gov. Additionally, DCPS will continue to post updates and materials from upcoming meetings on the [DCPS School Planning Blog](#).

For comments or additional questions, please email dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov.

Enrollment

How many students will MacArthur serve? What grades will it include in the first year?

For the first academic year, SY23-24, MacArthur's enrollment projection is 250 students - 200 9th graders and 50 10th graders. By December of each year, through a collaborative process between Central Services, principals, and LSATs, every DCPS school gets an enrollment projection for the following school year. When MacArthur is fully enrolled, in school year 2026-2027, DCPS anticipates a total enrollment of approximately 800 students in grades 9-12. This number will ultimately be determined as part of the annual enrollment projection process.

Athletics

What sports will be available at MacArthur?

For school year 2023-2024 MacArthur plans to offer the following sports:

- Girls Volleyball
- Boys & Girls Soccer (as a club)
- Boys and Girls Cross Country
- Cheerleading
- Boys Basketball
- Boys and Girls Indoor and Outdoor Track
- Golf
- Tennis

For all other sports not available at MacArthur, DCPS students may request authorization to

participate at any other DCPS high school. See 5.2.16 of the [DCIAA student handbook](#) for more information.

What transportation will be provided to students participating in sports?

If a school has an athletics team but lacks practice space on-site, the DCPS Athletics Department does provide transportation to offsite practice locations. If a school does not have an athletics team and a student elects to participate on the team of another school, DCPS does not provide transportation.

Budget

How does funding and enrollment drive programming options in the first years of the school?

DCPS follows a model of funding that is based on student enrollment, staffing and program grants. For the first academic year, MacArthur will be funded to support its anticipated enrollment goal. For more information about the budget model, visit: <https://dcpsbudget.com/budget-process-timeline/>

To see MacArthur’s Fiscal Year 2024 budget, visit: <https://dcpsbudget.com/datasets/macarthur-hs-submitted-2024/>

Transportation

What kind of transportation options do students have to get to the school?

Students will likely utilize a range of transportation options, including public transportation, walking and biking, and drop-off by car. DCPS has worked with area transportation agencies to enhance public transportation options.

MacArthur is accessible by bus, on WMATA’s Route D6 and Route 33. As of June 25, 2023 WMATA has increased the frequency of both routes. While every student’s transportation needs will be different, DCPS has outlined six recommended routes from within and outside the MacArthur boundary, available online: <https://bit.ly/routes2MacA>. Looking to the future, WMATA is launching the second phase of their [Better Bus Network Redesign](#) this summer – they will seek public engagement on possible new routes throughout the entire region.

Facilities

What is the construction timeline for the school?

The school will open in August 2023 and have a phased project delivery.

Phase I: When MacArthur HS opens, the building will have the key elements required for a high school including a full-size high school gym, a kitchen/cafeteria, classroom spaces, science labs, a practice soccer field, a media center, office space, and specialized spaces (like a black box performance space). As construction continues, DCPS will publish biweekly updates with photos. You can find the updates at <https://dcps.dc.gov/macarthur>

Phase II: Following this first phase of delivery, a separate Design/Build team will be awarded a contract for the more extensive MacArthur Expansion Project (or “Phase II”), which will be active through the summer of 2026.