



## MacArthur High School Updates

### 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 (referred to in this document as “MacArthur” until a name is selected for the 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

<b>Location</b>	4530 MacArthur Boulevard NW
<b>Expected opening date</b>	August 2023
<b>Grades served</b>	9 to 12
<b>Boundary and Feeder Pattern</b>	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 current (SY21-22) 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> graders 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 document that was released in June 2022. To view that initial document, visit: <https://bit.ly/MacArthurFAQ>. **The latest content on programming starts on page 6.**

---

## School Program and Planning

### Is “MacArthur” the final name for the new high school?

No, MacArthur is a placeholder name for the school based on its location on MacArthur Blvd NW. DCPS is actively engaging communities and is in the process to determine a final name for the school.

### 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.

### What sports will be offered? Will students be able to participate in sports teams at other schools?

The sports offered at MacArthur will be determined by facility space and student interest. Based on the DCIAA handbook, DCPS students who attend high schools in which a particular sport is not offered may request authorization to participate at any other DCPS high school offering that sport if certain conditions are met. See 5.2.16 of the [DCIAA student handbook](#).

## 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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. This includes current (SY21-22) 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders.
  - 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 9<sup>th</sup> grade in School Year 2025-2026 or later will have feeder rights only to MacArthur HS. This includes current (SY21-22) PK4-5<sup>th</sup> graders. 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.

**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 graduate from Hardy MS and enter 9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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	Year Student Enters 9th Grade	Feeder rights from Hardy to MacArthur	Feeder rights from Hardy to Jackson-Reed
8th grade	<b>SY2023-2024</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
7th grade	<b>SY2024-2025</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
6th grade	<b>SY2025-2026</b>	<b>YES</b>	No, unless a sibling is enrolled in SY2025-2026
5th grade	<b>SY2026-2027</b>	<b>YES</b>	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 will be included as a school option in the School Year 2023-2024 lottery opening in

---

December of 2022. The number of lottery seats MacArthur will offer will be determined in early 2023, as is true of all DCPS schools.

Some lottery seats will be reserved for students who meet the criteria of the Equitable Access Designated Seats program. The program's criteria includes 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. The number of seats that will be reserved for the Equitable Access Designated Seats program has not been determined.

## 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, parent, 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](#).

### **How can I stay updated on the planning process for these two schools?**

As the planning process continues, DCPS will conduct additional targeted engagement with impacted parents and stakeholders until the schools open. Enrolled families should look out for information from their school leadership and DCPS in the coming months around updates on the planning process and additional engagement opportunities. Additionally, DCPS will continue to post updates and materials from upcoming meetings on the [DCPS School Planning Blog](#). For questions in the meantime, please reach out to the DCPS School Planning team at [dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov](mailto:dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov).

### **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](mailto:dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov).

---

Information in this document outlines important focus areas and next steps for planning and implementation, including enrollment and academic programming options. Questions are sourced from community emails and meetings.

For comments or additional questions, please email [dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov](mailto:dcps.planning@k12.dc.gov).

## Enrollment

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

When MacArthur is fully enrolled, DCPS anticipates a total enrollment of approximately 800 students in grades 9-12. For the first academic year, we anticipate enrolling approximately 200 9<sup>th</sup> graders, along with the possibility for a small 10<sup>th</sup> grade class.

## Academic Programming

### **What programming is available at existing DCPS high schools?**

DCPS' comprehensive high school model includes many elements such as academic courses, electives, specialized arts, and Career and Technical Education (CTE). To learn more about the high school model, see materials from Meeting #2 of the MacArthur Community Working Group:

<https://dcpsplanning.wordpress.com/2022/06/24/macarthur-community-working-group-meeting-2>  
(Slide 19-24).

### **What are the graduation requirements at MacArthur?**

Like all DCPS high schools, MacArthur will ensure students have access to courses needed to meet graduation requirements, as set by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). These requirements include four units each of English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Courses in World Language, Art, Music, Physical Education/Health, and Electives are also required. To view the DCPS' graduation requirements in full, visit: <https://dcps.dc.gov/graduation>.

Students at specialized high schools or programs are required to complete the above requirements in addition to any supplementary requirements of the specialized high school or program (including International Baccalaureate). To view the grading policies that DCPS follows for Advanced Placement (AP)/IB programming, visit: <https://bit.ly/DCPSGradingPolicy>

### **What courses will be available at MacArthur in the first year?**

Course offerings are developed by school administrators based on graduation requirements, student needs, and staffing. The school leader of MacArthur will have the ability to shape the schools course options in partnership with staff, students, and families.

DCPS will require that MacArthur offers courses required for graduation including English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. DCPS will expect that the school leader anticipates student needs based on the existing course schedules of students from the feeder middle school, Hardy. DCPS will also

---

recommend that available space in the course schedules of teachers be used to offer arts or Health/PE as well as English, History, Mathematics, and/or Science electives.

**What kind of course schedule will MacArthur follow?**

Many DCPS high schools follow a four-period daily schedule. Some schools have an A/B Day approach in which the four periods a student takes on an “A day” may differ from the four periods they take on a “B day.” Sample courses currently offered at two DCPS high schools can be viewed here:

<https://dcpsplanning.wordpress.com/2022/09/23/macarthur-community-group-meeting-5> (Slide 25 and Slide 27). For MacArthur HS, the school could have AP courses in addition to courses from the IB curriculum.

**How will course offerings be developed?**

A list of course offerings will be developed by school administrators based on graduation requirements, student needs, and staffing.

English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies will be prioritized to ensure students are on track to complete the four required units in these subjects. Art, Music, Physical Education/Health, World Languages, and Electives will be incorporated next.

To build a list of course offerings, the school leader will be expected to consider the needs of students likely to attend. DCPS will recommend the school leader references the current schedules of students enrolled at the one feeder middle school, Hardy.

Most teachers are certified in one subject area of expertise, but they can teach multiple courses within that subject area. If a teacher at MacArthur can lead six sections, then one mathematics teacher can teach a few sections of Algebra I and a few sections of Geometry. A second teacher can teach a few sections of Algebra I and a section of Algebra II or another math-related elective.

**What courses will be available at MacArthur in years 2, 3, 4, and on?**

Course offerings are determined by the school team and guided by graduation requirements, student needs and staffing.

**Will students at MacArthur have the option to take advanced courses?**

Yes, MacArthur will offer advanced courses to prepare students for rigorous course work in either Advanced Placement classes or in an International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme. (For more information see “What is an Advanced Placement class?” and “What is International Baccalaureate programming?” below.)

Students at MacArthur will also be eligible to take college courses through DCPS’ dual enrollment program. (For more information, see “What is Dual Enrollment?” below.)

**What is an Advanced Placement (AP) class? Will MacArthur offer AP?**

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program by the College Board offering college level courses in high school.

All DCPS comprehensive and application high schools offer at least 7 AP courses, with at least 1 in each of the 4 core subject areas, unless the school instead offers International Baccalaureate programming.

---

Some schools offer more AP classes; schools typically decide what to offer based on student interest and teacher expertise.

*Note about IB:* If MacArthur pursues IB accreditation, the school will offer AP classes until it receives accreditation. After the school is accredited and students can pursue an IB diploma, the school could choose to also offer individual AP classes.

### **What is International Baccalaureate (IB) programming? Will MacArthur offer IB?**

International Baccalaureate (IB) is a globally standardized curriculum created by the International Baccalaureate Organization consisting of the Diploma Programme (for high school; ages 16+), Middle Years Programme (for middle school and early high school; ages 11-16) and Primary Years Programme (for elementary school).

DCPS is currently considering whether MacArthur could pursue IB accreditation. If MacArthur does become an IB school, DCPS would recommend a “whole school model” that includes both a Middle Years Programme (MYP) and a Diploma Programme (DP). Under a whole school model, all 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders would take courses taught using an IB approach.

Starting in 11<sup>th</sup> grade, students could choose whether or not to pursue an IB diploma. For more information about IB programming at DCPS, see materials from Meeting #5 of the MacArthur Community Working Group: <https://dcpsplanning.wordpress.com/2022/09/23/macarthur-community-group-meeting-5/>.

### **What is the IB accreditation process? How does the timeline impact the first cohorts of students?**

#### **What is needed to achieve accreditation process?**

The IBO (International Baccalaureate Organization) accreditation process is to ensure a school is equipped to deliver the IB program. The school authorization process typically takes 4 years, you can learn more about the authorization process here: <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/the-authorization-process/>.

There are no set deadlines or timeframes for any stage of authorization. The authorization process is school-focused and -driven based on the school satisfactorily completing the milestones in each phase, including trainings for teachers and school leaders, and considering the advice provided by IB educators and staff. It is advised that schools do not rush into authorization and consider the professional development their staff is likely to have completed prior to authorization.

Each IB school is staffed with a dedicated IB coordinator and provided with funds needed to complete necessary training and certifications. Even without accreditation, a school can orient students in IB philosophies through courses structured to support coursework for MYP in grades 9 and 10.

### **How does DCPS support schools with IB programming?**

DCPS supports schools with IB programming in two ways:

- Programming - Collaborative IB coordinator meetings, IB coordinator support, membership of the Mid Atlantic Association of IB, and facilitating global partner connections.



- 
- **Budget** - The DCPS budget model includes supplemental program allocations that are specific to school needs. A program allocation is available for schools who offer International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum. The IB program allocation covers staffing requirements and non-personnel costs including professional development that is mandated by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). You can learn more about program-based allocation here: <https://dcpsbudget.com/budget-model/fy23-program-grant-allocations/>

**How would an IB program impact other elements of the school, including graduation requirements, scheduling, specialized instruction, and the school's budget?**

All high school students need to meet the graduation requirements as set by OSSE regulations. Students at specialized high schools or programs are required to complete the above requirements in addition to any supplementary requirements of the specialized high school or program (including IB). To view the grading policies that DCPS follows for AP/IB programming, visit: <https://bit.ly/DCPSGradingPolicy>. To learn more about DCPS' graduation requirement policies, visit: <https://bit.ly/DCPSGraduationRequirements>

**What is Dual Enrollment? Will MacArthur offer Dual Enrollment?**

Students at MacArthur will be eligible to participate in dual enrollment. Dual enrollment enables students to take challenging college courses that are not offered at their home high school. In-person dual enrollment courses are offered by American University, Catholic University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, and Howard University, Bay Atlantic University, Montgomery College, Trinity Washington University, and UDC-Flagship. In addition, UDC-Community College, NVCC, Marymount University, and Bard College offer mainly virtual course options for students. DCPS high school students who are grade-level and GPA eligible can apply to participate in dual enrollment and the program is tuition free. Upon successful completion, students will earn college credits transferrable to the post-secondary institution of their choosing. For more information about DCPS Dual Enrollment opportunities, please visit <https://dcps.dc.gov/service/participate-dual-enrollment>

## 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/>

## Athletics

**What sports will be available at MacArthur?**

The sports offered at MacArthur will be determined by facility space and student interest. The DCPS Athletics Department works with school leaders and the Athletic Director to recommend and establish the athletic teams' students would be likely to participate in within the opening years of a school. As of now we are considering individual and team-based sports such as basketball, soccer, tennis, and track.

---

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.

## Staffing

**When does DCPS expect to have a principal in place for MacArthur HS? How does that timing correspond to best practices and lessons learned from other successful new high school launches? If there are open items that prevent specificity, what are those open issues/questions?**

Typically, principal hiring process takes place during spring of a normal school year. A general timeline for principal hiring is:

- 1) Recruitment in the fall prior to school opening
- 2) Interviews/Selection - mid/late winter
- 3) Announcement – The spring before school opening

For MacArthur HS, DCPS has begun a national search for a principal in summer 2022, well before typical principal hiring cycles. This is to help ensure we have a principal in place to effectively plan for school opening. Based on previous high school openings, having a principal join DCPS in winter before school year opening ensures a successful planning year.

To ensure success of school openings, DCPS central office and teams support the principal holistically until school-based staff are hired. Learn more about the hiring process here:

<https://dcps.dc.gov/page/principal-position-overview-and-application-process>.

**What can DCPS and parents do to ensure MacArthur HS can recruit great teachers?**

The Division of Talent Acquisition and Retention team at DCPS employs a multifaceted approach to source top teacher talent from near and far to ensure we provide the quantity and quality of candidates to fill our vacancies each school year. Below you will find some high-level information detailing some of our key recruitment strategies:

- Creating targeted, content-specific digital advertisements
- Investing in robust advertising campaigns
- Conducting targeted sourcing
- Participating in virtual career fairs, information sessions, and national recruitment events
- Expanding our national and international teacher recruitment efforts

In terms of specific ways parents and communities can support this work, there are two main areas that we'd like to highlight. The first is referring to a great educator to teach with DCPS. This can be done by way of our Teacher Referral Program and sharing the candidate's information here:

<https://joindcps.info/referDCPS>.

---

The other area would be by helping spread the word via various social media platforms like [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

## Transportation

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

The facility is located directly on the D6 bus route. While DCPS does not offer dedicated transportation for students to its schools, we are actively working with transportation agencies in the District to further understand transit options for students. Additionally, DCPS will be collecting data from students and families through surveys and traffic study community meetings.

### **Will DCPS provide out of boundary students with transportation to MacArthur?**

DCPS will not be providing transportation to families in any of the options or scenarios. DCPS is committed to working with WMATA and DC Department of Transportation on ways in which to support family travel patterns.

## Facilities

### **What is the construction timeline for the school?**

The school will open in August 2023 and have a phased project delivery. When MacArthur HS opens, the building will have the key elements required for a high school including a full-size high school gym, kitchen/cafeteria, classroom space, science labs, a practice soccer field, a media center, office space, and specialized spaces (like a black box performance space). It's important to note that the school's facilities will be delivered in phases that directly correlate with the growing student population, with the main hall of classrooms and support spaces available in the first year. Phase two of the project will be delivered in two parts – Summer 2025 and Summer 2026.