



October 8, 2025

Welcome to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Newsletter. Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) is committed to keeping the community informed about current capital improvement projects. This monthly newsletter includes major updates from some of our ongoing projects.



VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

HOSTED BY: ACPS OFFICE OF CAPITAL PROGRAMS, PLANNING, AND DESIGN

George Mason Modernization Construction Update

Date: Wed., Oct. 29, 2025
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Location: [Join Meeting Here](#)
Webinar ID: 939 5177 5252
Passcode: 730434



To access information on past community meetings, please visit the webpage for the [Office of Capital Programs, Planning & Design](#).

CAPITAL PROGRAMS, PLANNING & DESIGN PROJECT UPDATES

The ACPS Office of Capital Programs, Planning and Design manages new facility projects (capacity projects) from initiation through the end of construction. The office is committed to modernizing school facilities at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

George Mason Modernization Project



Construction fencing has been installed around the site, with fence screening to follow. Abatement has been completed throughout the building, and any additional materials encountered during demolition will be addressed in compliance with regulations. The survey team will stake out the project's limits of disturbance, and utility disconnects are currently in progress.

The project team has received the partial site release needed to install erosion and sediment controls and begin demolition. These controls will be installed in the first two weeks of October. The construction fence will be moved and preparations for demolition of the building will commence in the third week of October. Updates on the date of demolition will be provided through a separate update. Final Site Plan approval and the building permit are under review by the City.

The High School Project: Minnie Howard Redevelopment



Former Campus (Phase II- Athletic Fields): The new turf fields and walking path at the Minnie Howard Campus are now open for use! The grass practice field will remain fenced off until spring to allow the

grass time to establish, though this will not affect the overall project schedule. The tennis and basketball courts are awaiting painting and final weather-dependent finishing. Once complete, a separate notification will be shared.

Phase II work is nearing completion. Plantings across all areas are expected to be finished by the first week of October. Substantial completion of phase II is anticipated by mid-October.

As with all shared ACPS and City spaces, access to the fields is prohibited during school hours on school days. For information on public access and hours of operation, please visit the [Alexandria Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities](#) website.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES PROJECT UPDATES

ACPS is modernizing its school facilities in a process that is expected to take place over the next 10 years. The Office of Educational Facilities is responsible for non-capacity projects that include building upgrades, such as heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), roof and safety and security upgrades. Project updates can be found on the [Office of Educational Facilities](#) webpage.

Alexandria City High School - King Street Campus

- Auditorium Audio Visual System: Rental auditorium audio/visual (A/V) equipment has been installed for SY2025–26. Permanent equipment upgrades are scheduled for summer 2026.
- Cistern: An engineer has assessed the current cistern system and is working with ACPS to develop a scope of work that includes replacing old pumps, removing sludge and drainage blockages, and upgrading equipment controls. This work may require City permits and right-of-way access approvals, which will determine the project timeline.
- Kitchen Compressor: Replacement of the kitchen refrigerator compressor has been rescheduled for winter 2025.
- Stadium Seating Improvement: Project has been rescheduled for summer 2026.

Francis Hammond Middle School

- The auditorium remains closed following issues with failing ceiling tiles discovered last school year. All tiles have been removed, and a structural engineer has assessed the existing plaster ceiling, recommending repairs before the space can be safely reopened. Proposals are currently being obtained to complete the necessary work, with the goal of reopening the space after Winter Break.

Naomi L. Brooks Elementary School

- The Media Center renovation is 95% complete, with upgrades including new bookshelves, furniture, sound baffles and carpeting. Once the remaining trim work is finished, the school team will begin restocking library books in the new bookcases later this month.

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) serves more than 16,300 students who hail from more than 118 countries and speak 127 languages. ACPS has 18 schools, including two middle schools, two K-8 schools, one pre-K school and the internationally recognized Alexandria City High School. ACPS is committed to nurturing, educating and inspiring each student so they are prepared to thrive in college, career and community. Visit us on the web at www.acps.k12.va.us and follow us on X ([Twitter](#)), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).