



March 9, 2026

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 efforts.



Lighting the Way for Learning

Lighting plays an important role in creating classrooms where students can learn comfortably and stay focused. Modern lighting systems are designed to provide bright, consistent light that improves visibility while reducing glare and eye strain. In ACPS, lighting system upgrades are an important part of our ongoing efforts to modernize our schools.

As buildings age, the Office of Educational Facilities works to replace older fixtures with more efficient lighting that helps create brighter and more welcoming learning spaces.

Improved classroom lighting has been shown to:

- Reduce eye strain during reading and computer use
- Improve visibility for classroom activities
- Create consistent lighting throughout learning spaces
- Support student focus and engagement



At the same time, the Capital Programs team helps ensure that new and modernized school facilities are designed to make the most of natural daylight. Larger windows, thoughtfully placed classrooms and open learning spaces reduce the need for artificial lighting during the day while maintaining bright interiors. Together, modern lighting systems and natural daylight help create welcoming, well-lit learning environments.

Read on to learn more about upcoming community meetings and the latest project updates.



VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

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

There are no community meetings scheduled for March at this time.



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



Installation of foundations, footers, foundation walls and floor slabs began in February and will continue for several weeks. Mock-up construction is underway at the northeast corner of the site and will be visible from the Cameron Mills side of the property. Mock-up construction involves building a small sample section of the future school to test materials and construction details. This allows the project team to confirm quality and make any adjustments before the full building is constructed.

Temporary power coordination with Dominion Energy is ongoing. Pest control services continue to be maintained on a monthly basis. Building coordination and submittals are ongoing and will continue throughout the project. All work remains weather dependent, and the project remains on schedule.

To stay informed about the George Mason modernization project and receive the latest construction updates, visit the [George Mason Modernization webpage](#).

FACILITY UPGRADES & MAINTENANCE 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. Facility upgrades & maintenance updates can also be found on the [Non-Capacity Projects Overview](#) webpage.

There are no updates for the month of March.

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) serves more than 15,900 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](#).