



St. Mary's County Public Schools

Central Administration

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Board of Education

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Mr. Josh Guy
Mrs. Mary M. Washington
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Dr. J. Scott Smith, Secretary/Treasurer

July 1, 2026

Dear Reader,

The Board of Education of St. Mary's County is pleased to submit this Educational Facilities Master Plan (EFMP) in accordance with Title 14, Subtitle 39, Chapter 2, Regulation 2 of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). The contents and format are as directed and requested by the rules, regulations, and procedures for the administration of the public school construction program dated September 1994 and revised most recently in April 2026. The format is patterned after the required elements list issued by the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC).

This document details the educational facilities program and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS). The Educational Facilities Master Plan must be submitted by July 1st of each year in accordance with the rules, regulations, and procedures for the administration of the Public School Construction Program and the Board of Education of St. Mary's County's policies and regulations. The school system and county data and information contained in this document are utilized for facilities planning decisions.

The CIP is updated annually for the current and next five consecutive years. This is a comprehensive plan that represents the capacity and infrastructure needs of the school system. The plan continues to focus on systemic renovations and infrastructure needs for facilities with systems that are reaching the end of their useful lives. As we enter FY 2027, the enrollment projections continue to show a declining enrollment that does not warrant the construction of new capacity within the six-year CIP. However, we will continue to monitor the enrollment trends and make adjustments to the plan as warranted.

The primary focus of the capital plan for the past several years has been the Chopticon High School Multi-Systemic Renovation project, which is the most expensive and multi-funding sourced project ever undertaken by SMCPS. Due to bids exceeding available funds, the funding for the project will be extended into FY 2028. The first year of funding for the Esperanza Middle School Multi-Systemic Renovation was allocated in FY 2027. The balance of funding for this project will be requested in FY 2028.

During FY 2026, school system staff completed a comprehensive review of all capital needs and adjusted the capital plan and project pipeline to reflect the most basic needs for systemic renovation projects based on current facility conditions and ways in which to utilize funding (state and local) to prolong systems until projects can move into project pipeline. The FY 2028-FY2033 capital improvement program represents the most pressing needs of the school system to maintain basic operating necessities for our facilities. Included are roof and/or HVAC systemic projects that are the most urgently needed to keep our facilities open and operational.

The IAC has been an invaluable partner during recent years and we very much value and appreciate all they have done to assist St. Mary's County Public Schools maximize available state funding. The Commissioners of St. Mary's County (CSMC) are also critical partners in this process and have made school construction funding a priority in their county capital plan. This capital plan address student and

facility needs as have been determined at this time and that are within the funding sources available for the construction of CIP projects.

The Board of Education of St. Mary's County has approved this master plan. Copies have been supplied to the CSMC and are available to all interested citizens. To request a copy of this plan or to express comments on this document or the St. Mary's County Public Schools' CIP, please contact:

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Department of Capital Planning
27190 Point Lookout Road
Loveville, Maryland 20656
(301) 475-4256, ext. 6

Sincerely,

Karin Bailey
Chairman, Board of Education

J. Scott Smith, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools