

Northern Adelphi Area High School Project Update Meeting | March 18, 2025 Questions & Answers

Currently, Adelphi ES is occupying the old Cherokee Lane building. Where will those students be placed?

The students who are in the Adelphi Elementary School; the former Cherokee Lane, will be moved to the new Cool Spring Elementary School Building in the Fall of 2027 when that new academic building is completed.

Fall 2030: Does this mean that the new school might be a swing school for High Point?

Yes, that is the current plan. It will be a swing for High Point while High Point is being replaced, but alternatives are under study right now. A decision on the alternatives will be made by late spring or summer. That will determine whether or not the new Northern is used as a swing high school.

Based on this scenario, is it accurate to say that no additional capacity will be added to high schools in the northern area until 2032?

Not at all. The new Northern High School coming online in 2029 will provide additional capacity for the northern area schools to help mitigate the capacity concerns. With this plan, the decision was made to add capacity at one new school rather than try to make additions at Bladensburg, Northern, and Laurel. Once the new building is available, there will be 2600 additional seats for the northern area.

If a feeder elementary school has no PTO...can the staff of that school be part of the process?

That will be up to Dr. Nicole Isley McClure. If you are a staff member of an elementary feeder school that does not have a PTO, contact capital.programs@pgcps.org. Please also feel free to contact Robert Nelson, DCP Communications Manager, directly at pg_robert.nelson@pgcps.org. Include your school's name, principal's name, and your name so we can run it by Dr. Isley to make an addition. Right now, the PPC is a group of roughly 15-18 and right now, we have about 14, so we want to make sure we keep the numbers in a manageable space.

There is a lot of traffic now on Metzerott Road. How will the additional high school staff and students affect that?

We are going to examine a new traffic study to assess how this project will impact traffic in the area. Our primary focus is on Cherokee Lane Elementary School, where many adjacent property owners have raised concerns about the significant amount of traffic and the narrowness of the roads. To address these issues, we are considering a campus-style approach, directing traffic through a single entry point that will serve all three schools: Cherokee Lane Elementary, Buck Lodge Middle, and Northern Area High School.



As part of this study, we have had discussions with the Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement, and we plan to continue collaborating with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). We are also in the process of conducting a traffic stop study to evaluate the feasibility of a new signaled intersection, which will enhance safety and facilitate safe left-hand turns.

Additionally, we plan to conduct a pedestrian study. Currently, there are no sidewalks along Metzerott Road, and we may need to consider installing them. However, students from the surrounding communities can currently access the sidewalks along Cherokee Lane and 26th Avenue.

I wanted to inquire about the staffing timeline for the school building. When is the expected start date for staffing? Will the process begin a year in advance to ensure adequate preparation?

We typically work with Human Resources to identify the proper timing and procedure for staffing the school. As we approach the date, we'll provide additional clarification on the process.

What would be the capacity for students?

It is designed for 2,000 comprehensive students and 600 CTE students for a total of 2,600 students.

Will the new high school be able to hold the High Point students (as swing space) AND additional students? If yes, will boundaries be adjusted in 2029 and again in 2032 after the new High Point HS is built? (I understand all this is still being studied, but could you answer based on what was shared tonight?)

The new Northern High School will only hold the High Point students during the swing space period. When they return, the new High Point School will be ready to receive the 2,600 students from its own attendance area, following the boundary-shifting process that Ms. McCarter just described.

Is anyone from the High Point High School PTSA included on the decision-making committee? I hear that the feeder school PTOs will have representatives. As a staff member at High Point, I'm interested in being involved.

If you are a staff member at High Point interested in being involved, please contact Principal Chacon! We are in the process of working with him on nominees for the PPC but also keep in mind High Point will have its own building with its own PPC. If you're also interested in being a part of something similar, you may want to talk to him about the additional PPC. If you are not able to get in contact with Principal Chacon, please contact Robert Nelson, DCP Communications Manager, at pg_robert.nelson@pgcps.org.

If High Point is already overcrowded with upwards of 3,000 students why is this new school only holding 2,600 students once High Point students move over?

The answer is that we don't want to build a high school that is too large. 2,600 is already a large high school and you would not want to build it to a larger size. There will be redistricting that will handle the over-capacity at High Point School and there are a number of trailers there. You have an overcrowded school that will be relieved by the new Northern High School, and the



construction of the school as a replacement school will provide capacity. With that, we believe that we'll have adequate capacity in the northern part of the county.

I wanted to inquire about the potential programs that will be offered at the school. Additionally, will the school be designated as a CTE (Career and Technical Education) school? If so, what pathways or programs are being considered?

Yes. We have a southern CTE hub at Crossland High School and North New Northern High School will be in the northern area. In the CTE hub, there will be 22 integrated CTE programs at the school including automotive construction, cosmetology, culinary arts, technology, and the healthcare trades. We'll have a Southern Crossland CTE hub and a Northern CTE hub at the New Adelphi campus.

How would you address the neighborhood traffic with 3 schools?

As it was mentioned earlier, there will be a new traffic study done with regard to the new northern site. There is an access road that will alleviate traffic off of the residential neighborhoods. We do understand that the traffic configuration through those neighborhoods is a very tight process with not much room, so there is a plan in place to alleviate that traffic flow with the installation of the access road that was discussed.

How will new capacity be added in 2029, then, per Ms. McCarter's comment that there will be new HS capacity as of 2029?

Part of that answer in the timeline depends on what Dr. Lever spoke to in terms of that decision about whether to use New Northern as a swing space. Once New Northern is constructed and the new High Point is constructed, it will be at a full buildout of capacity. Depending on how those projects stack out and how the space is used, will determine which year we reach that buildout.

For the CTE programs...are the students enrolled in them only be from the new high school boundaries or is it open to all PGCPs students?

The plan was designed for 2000 comprehensive students and 600 CTE students for the 4am and 4 pm program. It would be for the region and not the whole county since have the southern hub, which would be quite a travel distance.

Is this new school CTE programs like Auto mechanics be a addition to the county or will this be a replacement for area schools like laurel high

They should be thought of as additions. We're not removing those programs from the other schools, we're trying to expand CTE offerings for the system as a part of the Blueprint initiatives.

I was part of the Cherokee Committee project as a parent and a neirghbhood resident and everyday we face this trafiic challeges.

With regards, the Cherokee Elementary School traffic issues that we're experiencing, have been mitigated to the best of our ability. All parties that were involved will take into consideration hours of delivery for transport back and forth. The purpose of the driveway connection to Metzoratt Road is to alleviate the traffic out of the residential areas.

I noticed that the keyword for HPHS is "replaced". Will HPHS be demolished and a new building is being constructed or is it being remodeled?

It will be replaced. The existing building has many problems with it and was added onto pieces over a long period of time. It's not an efficient building from many perspectives and it doesn't



meet current standards of what a high school should be. Given all those factors, a replacement is by far the best option.