



FAIR ACCESS

FOR WESTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

- ★ ALL NEW POOLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
- ★ COLLOCATED COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

Poolesville Day Breakfast

SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

June 4, 2021 • Volume XVII, Number 7

A New PHS: Progress but True Equity Remains Elusive

By Link Hoewing

The Montgomery County Council just gave final approval to the FY22 budget. Included in the budget is around \$60 million that will go to the construction of a new Poolesville High School. Added to accumulated funds, the total budget for construction of the new school is a little over \$70 million. It is welcome news and is in many ways a historic event.

Even with this initial step forward, the county's commitment to building a truly new and modern school ready to serve the needs of all students now and in the future is not complete. The budget for the school is more on par with the funding needed to build a new middle school, not a new high school. Despite the new design for the school which has received positive reviews, the county has still refused to include critical features—including a new, competition-size gymnasium



Artist rendering of the new Poolesville High School.

and a student Wellness Center—that would demonstrate that it is “all in” when it comes to rebuilding PHS.

This is not the case with other high school projects. Seneca Valley High School, with its new Wellness Center and massive new gym that can be

divided into three usable parts, as well as its completely rebuilt outdoor stadium and playing fields, comes immediately to mind. Some twenty years of advocacy have yielded fruit,

Continued on page 16.

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Parents frustrated after school district scraps much-needed repairs at Poolesville High School

By Cori Coffin, FOX 5 DC | Published November 30, 2017 | News | FOX 5 DC



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness



Poolesville students spotlight outdated high school

By Michael Alison Chandler

November 12, 2011

Montgomery schools Superintendent Joshua Starr's [new building plan](#), which emphasizes easing crowded schools particularly in Bethesda-Chevy Chase, is getting an unhappy reception in neighborhoods that must wait longer for updates.

Two students from Poolesville High School, juniors Pierson Higareda and Jonathan Fink, posted a video on YouTube to attract attention to their outdated facility.



It was during the 1950s that the Board of Education first considered closing the high school in Poolesville...The community, angered by this proposal, rallied in opposition to the plan...This resulted in dropping the notion of closing the school and busing Poolesville students elsewhere.

Mission of the Fair Access Committee

Created by the Town of Poolesville

Mission as stated in the Town Code:

Actively engage county and state representatives to promote fair access to facilities and services provided elsewhere in the county.

In short, to treat our area fairly.

White Paper Lays Out the Vision



FRAMEWORK FOR A MULTI- USE FACILITY WITH A NEW HIGH SCHOOL IN WESTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2019





LOCAL OPINIONS

Opinion | Montgomery's Agricultural Reserve has a dark side

By Link Hoewing, Chuck Copeland and Kevin Schramm

August 30, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. EDT

“For decades, the county has neglected to invest in the people and students who live or attend high school in the western part of the county.”

Our Partnership Has More To Do To Ensure Equity

Ensure new school is finished on time and new gym is built

Open and Improve White's Ferry

New Museum About Ferries

Build Community Center

Provide vital community health care services

Build Wellness Center

Upgrade Pool for Year-Round Use



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Thank you
