

# Baltimore City Schools Quarterly Coordinating Committee Meeting on School Construction: Draft Notes

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Prepared by Jaffa Weiss & Patrick McMahon, Department of Planning.

## Attendees

- Department of Planning
- Tim Keane, Planning Director
- Nichole Stewart, Deputy Director
- Tarek Bolden, Western Dist. Planner
- Kari Nye, Northwestern Dist. Planner
- Chad Hayes, Dir., Community Planning and Revitalization
- Jaffa Weiss, INSPIRE Planner
- Patrick McMahon, INSPIRE Planner
- BCPSS
- Fred Mason
- Cyndi Smith
- Alicia Thomas
- Maurice Gaskins
- MSA
- Eric Johnson
- Melissa Wilfong
- Nichole Matthews
- Brailsford & Dunlavey
- Bolu Adeniran

## Housekeeping

- Review and Approval Minutes of July 16, 2025
- Moved by Eric Johnson and seconded by Alicia Thomas for approval

## Agency Updates

### School walking routes (DOP/DOT)

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- INSPIRE Area Sidewalk Repairs
- Of four schools with sidewalk work along the primary walking routes needed this year, two have been completed (Fort Worthington and Highlandtown #237). The work around Commodore John Rodgers should be completed in the next couple of weeks and Cross Country will be next and last with completion in the spring if not this fall.
- Curb ramp improvements at several schools are waiting for approval by the City's Board of Estimates before that work gets underway.
- Other route improvements
- Crossing study for Frederick Douglass at Gwynns Falls Parkway

- Last heard that DOT anticipates refreshing the striping but no HAWK signal before the students return, but hope that will be discussed this afternoon.
- Other topics
- Sadie Baker to lead Schools/DOT meeting this afternoon

#### INSPIRE Planning (DOP)

- Upcoming plans (Patrick/Jaffa)
- Nearing completion of Walter P. Carter INSPIRE Plan, completed first draft of recommendations report, anticipate taking to Planning Commission in December
- Reinitiated Cross Country INSPIRE Plan, particular interest in pickup and drop off issues
- Northwood INSPIRE plan recommendations report will be ready for second review by Steering Committee soon and anticipate taking to the Planning Commission for approval in December or January
- Have restarted the Billie Holiday/Katherine Johnson INSPIRE Plan and had our second Steering Committee meeting on Oct. 1 and are planning a public meeting in November
- Montebello EMS just had a new Community School Coordinator start and are planning to start that INSPIRE Plan once they are acclimated, with Steering Committee member recommendations from the surrounding neighborhoods

#### Design and Construction Updates (21<sup>st</sup> Century/MSA)

School name	Previous Meeting Status	Current Status	Recent updates	Scheduled Opening
Com. John Rodgers EMS	Construction	Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On schedule, construction proceeding               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Out of the ground,</li> <li>○ All elevated decks are poured out in Area A</li> <li>○ Setting steel in Area B</li> <li>○ Working Masonry Bearing Walls in Area C</li> <li>○ Interior MEPs and Light Gage Framing is underway in Area.</li> <li>○ Continuing North Property Line Retaining Wall</li> <li>○ Street Utilities are underway</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Mid-year 2026, Still on track
Frederick Douglass HS/Briscoe	Construction	Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ On schedule, construction proceeding</li> <li>○ Renovation is progressing with finished paint &amp; ceiling grid on the 3rd floor</li> <li>○ The majority of the rough-ins are complete on the renovation</li> </ul>	Summer 2026, still on track

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Briscoe Addition has the majority of the Structural Steel erected with the Aux. Gym underway</li> <li>○ A large portion of the underground utilities are complete with permanent power &amp; gas this month</li> </ul>	
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- **Built to Learn**
- Status of new BCPSS website
- Still in progress
- City College
- Construction began in September 2025.
- Site is fenced
- Ongoing activities include abatement and interior demolition in both the main building and the Annex building.
- Currently on track for summer 2028 completion
- No update from BCPSS re: removal of the slip lane at 33<sup>rd</sup> & Alameda
- Poly-Western
- Finalizing Design Development phase, anticipated completed by early November 2025
- Held a community update meeting for Western meeting last night (10/14) and a Poly meeting tonight (10/15)
- Reviewing the traffic study and have several 311 requests in for intersections along Falls Road
- Other updates

**Baltimore City Quarterly Meeting on High School Planning and Construction**

<b>Building Name</b>	<b>Previous Status</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Design</b>	<b>Relocation to Swing</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>Grand Opening</b>	<b>Swing space</b>
Frederick Douglass High School	<b>Construction</b>	Construction	SY 22/23 - SY 23/24	Summer 2024	SY 24/25 – SY 25/26	Summer 2026	Northwestern Building
Baltimore City College	<b>Design</b>	Construction	SY 23/24 - SY 24/25	Summer 2025	SY 25/26 - SY 27/28	Summer 2028	University of Baltimore
Western High School	<b>Design</b>	Design	SY 24/25 - SY 25/26	Summer 2026	SY 26/27 – SY 27/28	Summer 2028	Northwestern Building
Baltimore Polytechnic High School	<b>Design</b>	Design	SY 24/25 – SY 25/26	Summer 2028	SY 28/29 – SY 29/30	Summer 2030	Northwestern Building

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Community Outreach

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- Upcoming meetings
- Western HS meeting tonight (10/14) - Built to Learn
- Baltimore Polytechnic Institute meeting tomorrow night (10/15) - Built to Learn
- City College design review meeting upcoming (11/5, 5:30 p.m. at Montebello EMS) - Built to Learn
- Commodore John Rodgers meeting upcoming (11/15) - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools

Next Scheduled Coordinating Committee Meeting: **Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 9:00am**